

**of Substance and
A Sound Foundation
Unprecedented
Wise
Administration**

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Liberals Are United

(Excerpt from statement in Legislature by Chas. McIntosh, M.L.A. for Kinistino, January 30, 1929, in reply to Tory allegations appearing in "Regina Daily Star" of a revolt against Premier Gardiner).

"It is not necessary for me to defend the Prime Minister. In times past he has proved himself quite capable of defending himself, and, in my opinion, he stands head and shoulders above all his opponents. We readily understand why they dislike him—he has spoiled their game too often. But it is just as well that "The Regina Star" and other interested parties should understand that **THE LIBERAL PARTY IN THIS PROVINCE IS A UNITED PARTY BEHIND THE LEADERSHIP OF HON. MR. GARDINER, AND THAT THE STRENGTH, COHESION AND SOLIDARITY OF THE LIBERAL PARTY IN THIS PROVINCE REMAIN UNIMPAIRED.**

"We might as well tell the Prime Minister's opponents that every member on this side of the House is proud to follow the leadership of Mr. Gardiner. We believe him to be a man of sterling character, of unquestionable integrity and of conspicuous ability, and he stands high not only in the respect, not only in the admiration but also in the affections of every member supporting the Government. **PREMIER GARDINER DOES NOT SUFFER BY COMPARISON WITH ANY LEADER OF GOVERNMENT THIS PROVINCE HAS HAD; NOR DOES HE SUFFER BY COMPARISON WITH ANY OTHER PROVINCIAL PREMIER IN CANADA.**

"I am not aware that by word or act, has he ever, as Prime Minister, brought the principles of Liberalism into peril or disparagement. On the contrary, I believe that time after time—and again in a magnificent manner, last night—he has shown that he has a lofty conception of, and an unswerving fidelity to, Liberal principles, and (what is more important) to the true and fundamental interests of the people of Saskatchewan.

"I am not a prophet or the son of a prophet, but I am confident of this, that, when next the people of this Province have an opportunity to pass judgment upon the Prime Minister and his Government, and upon the Liberal party, the whole of Canada will echo with the sound of our triumphs."

Conservative Admission of Defeat

"**WE CANNOT HOPE TO DEFEAT THE GOVERNMENT, AND IT IS NOT DESIRABLE THAT WE SHOULD, FOR THE CONSERVATIVES ARE NOT YET READY FOR OFFICE.**"—*Introductory statement by R. J. Hill, Chairman of Conservative Nominating Convention, held at Swift Current on April 19, 1929.*

3 items
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together 125

SOCIAL
SCIENCES

INDEX

In Addition to Appendices A, B and C at pages 99 to 106, there are five separate pamphlets bound in at the back of this Handbook as Appendices D, E, F, G and H, as follows:

"D"—Saskatchewan's Women and Children, being a short review of matters especially affecting their interests.

"E"—Who is Responsible for the Introduction of Race and Religion Into the Discussion of Public Questions in Saskatchewan?

"F"—Blockade Tactics of Tory Member Blocks His Own Inquiry, a review of the proceedings before the Public Accounts Committee.

"G"—Facts About the Happyland Election.

"H"—It's Time for a Change of Tory Tactics.

	A	PAGE
AGRICULTURE:		31-49
Initiative and Action		31, 32
Agricultural Aids		48, 49
Agricultural Representatives		48
Agriculture in Normal Schools		88
Apiarist		46
Better Farming Trains		34, 38, 39
Co-operation and Markets		41-45
Dairy Branch		36-38
Debt Adjustment Bureau		46-48
Field Crops Branch		38-40
Grain Inquiry Commission		89-92
Live Stock Branch		32-36
Poultry		43, 45
Short Courses for Weed Inspectors		38
Soil Surveys		40, 41
Statistics Branch		45, 46
University and Agriculture		87, 88
ALLEGATIONS AND ANSWERS THERETO		93-98
ASSESSMENT COMMISSION		50, 51
AUDIT, THE "INDEPENDENT"		85-86
	C	
CHILDREN, PROTECTION OF		Appendix D
CHILDREN, EDUCATION OF		Appendix E
CHILDREN, EMPLOYMENT OF		Appendix F
CHILDREN, SOLDIERS' DEPENDENT		Appendix G
CIVIL SERVICE		83, 84
COAL		60-63
COLONIZATION AND IMMIGRATION		70
CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERIES		45
CO-OPERATIVE ELEVATORS		44
COMPARISONS (With Other Provinces):		
Public Debt		6, 7, 11
Interest Payments		7
Surpluses and Deficits		8
Taxation		9

Elevator Policy.....	11, 12
Railway Policy.....	11, 12
Educational Expenditures.....	15, 16
Costs of Fuel.....	63
CONSERVATIVE PREDICTIONS OF VICTORY.....	Appendix H
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.....	14

D

DEBT ADJUSTMENT BUREAU.....	46-48
DESERTED WIVES.....	Appendix D

E

EDUCATION.....	13-17
Blind.....	Appendix D
Comparisons of Expenditures.....	16
Deaf and Dumb.....	Appendix D
Expenditures, 1925-1928.....	15
The English Language.....	14
Free Readers.....	102, 103
High Schools and Collegiates.....	17
Religious Instruction.....	14
School Districts, Number of.....	17
Secondary Schools.....	17
Separate Schools.....	14
Soldiers' Dependent Children.....	Appendix D
Statistics.....	102, 103
Training of Teachers.....	17
ELECTION RESULTS.....	3
EXPENDITURES (Provincial).....	101

F

FINANCES.....	5-12
Comparisons With Other Provinces.....	6, 7, 12
Public Debt.....	6-9
Revenues and Expenditures.....	10, 11, 99, 100, 101
Surplus.....	8
Taxation.....	9, 10
FARM LOANS BOARD.....	77-80

G

GRAIN INQUIRY COMMISSION.....	89-92
-------------------------------	-------

H

HIGHWAYS.....	23-30
Provincial System.....	23, 24
Main Market Roads.....	23, 26
Local Roads.....	23
Policy Outlined.....	23
Assistance to Municipalities.....	25, 26
Bridges.....	26, 27
Ferries.....	27
Motor License Fees.....	25
Gasoline Tax.....	25
Commendations.....	29, 30
Conservative Policy.....	27, 28
HOSPITAL GRANTS.....	21, 22

HAPPYLAND ELECTION.....	Appendix G
-------------------------	------------

I

IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION.....	70
IMMIGRATION, British Domestic.....	71
IMMIGRATION, British Boys.....	71
IMMIGRATION, British "Trainees".....	71
INFANTS' RIGHTS.....	Appendix D
"INDEPENDENT" AUDIT.....	85, 86

J

JUVENILE COURTS.....	Appendix D
----------------------	------------

L

LABOUR INTERESTS.....	68, 69
LIGNITE UTILIZATION BOARD.....	62
LIQUOR BOARD.....	81, 82
LIVE STOCK POOL.....	45
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.....	51, 52

M

MATERNITY GRANTS.....	20, 21, Appendix D
MOTHERS' ALLOWANCES.....	Appendix D
MENTAL HOSPITALS, INMATES OF.....	96
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.....	50-52
MUNICIPAL HOSPITALS.....	Appendix D
MUNICIPAL DOCTORS.....	Appendix D
MUNICIPAL NURSES.....	Appendix D

O

OLD AGE PENSIONS.....	9, Appendix D
OPEN SHELF LIBRARY.....	Appendix D
OPPOSITION ALLEGATIONS AND ANSWERS THERETO.....	93-98
ORPHANAGES.....	95, 96

P

PUBLIC DEBT.....	6-9
PUBLIC HEALTH.....	18-22
Cancer Research.....	22
Death Rate.....	18
Disease Prevention.....	19, 20
Free Laboratory Service.....	21
Expenditures.....	18
Health Districts.....	19
Hospital Grants.....	21, 22
Immunisation and Inoculation.....	20
Maternity Grants.....	20, 21
Mental Hygiene Research.....	22
Nursing Service.....	19, 20
Remedial Services.....	20, 21
Sanitation.....	19
Tuberculosis Treatment.....	21
PUBLIC WORKS.....	53-59
Awarding of Contracts.....	57, 58, 59
Calling for Tenders.....	57
Buildings.....	104-106

Home for the Infirm.....	55
Mental Hospitals.....	54, 56
Normal Schools.....	54
Sanatoria for Tuberculosis.....	54
School for the Deaf.....	54
University Buildings.....	53
POLICE.....	76
POULTRY POOL.....	45
POWER POLICY AND COMMISSION.....	73-75
PROPERTY OF MARRIED WOMEN.....	Appendix D
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE	

(Tory Allegations re swearing of J. G. Cameron)..... Appendix F

R

RAILWAYS, LABOUR AND INDUSTRIES.....	67-72
British Boy Immigration.....	71
British Domestic.....	71
British "Trainees".....	71
Colonization and Immigration.....	70
Employment Service.....	68
Freight Rates.....	68
Industries and Resources.....	69
Labour Bureau.....	68
Labour Legislation.....	69
Mineral Resources.....	70
Railways.....	67
Tourist Traffic.....	72
RACE AND RELIGION CAMPAIGN.....	Appendix E
REVENUES (Provincial).....	99, 100
ROMAN CATHOLICS IN SASKATCHEWAN.....	93
ROMAN CATHOLICS IN LEGISLATURE.....	93
ROMAN CATHOLICS IN GOVERNMENT.....	93
ROMAN CATHOLICS IN CIVIL SERVICE.....	93, 94
ROMAN CATHOLICS IN POLICE.....	95
ROMAN CATHOLICS IN PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.....	95

S

SASKATCHEWAN COAL.....	60-63
STATISTICS.....	99-106

T

TAXATION.....	96, 97
TELEPHONES.....	64-66
TOBACCO, SALE TO MINORS.....	Appendix D
TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.....	Appendix D

U

UNIVERSITY'S SERVICE TO AGRICULTURE.....	87, 88
--	--------

V

VOTES FOR WOMEN.....	Appendix D
----------------------	------------

W

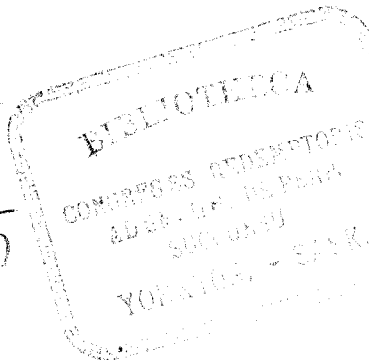
WHEAT POOL.....	44, 45
WOMAN'S RIGHTS IN THE HOME.....	Appendix D
WOMEN AND THE FRANCHISE.....	Appendix D
WORKMEN'S WIDOWS AND CHILDREN.....	Appendix D

SASKATCHEWAN LIBERAL HANDBOOK

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE

A RECORD of Substan-
tial Achievement—A Sound
Financial Position, Unprece-
dented Growth and Wise
Progressive Administration.

N5



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Introductory

THE Province of Saskatchewan is almost 24 years old, having been inaugurated a Province of Canada in September, 1905. During this period its growth has been very rapid, and little short of the phenomenal, and easily without a parallel among the Provinces or in any country. From the small beginnings of 1905, Saskatchewan has forged ahead to the position of third Province in point of population, first in value of field crops, first in the per capita wealth of its people, second in railway mileage, and well in the front rank in many other respects. It is today the fastest growing Province in the Dominion.

Throughout its history, provincial policies and affairs have been under the direction of the Liberal party, consequently, whatever credit accrues to government for Saskatchewan's present strong position in Confederation must be accorded to the Liberal party.

Because Liberal administrations have been in office throughout this period, the Conservative Opposition asks the people to believe "It's time for a change!" This is the Opposition's chief campaign cry and argument. This Handbook, by presenting actual facts as opposed to Tory fiction, while necessarily condensed as a review of Liberal policies and administration, does make conclusive answer to the Tory campaign slogan.

Nor is this the first time that the cry "It's time for a change" has been raised by the Opposition. The same cry did duty as the ground of Opposition appeals in 1917, 1921 and 1925, with the result that the electors all but annihilated the Conservative party so far as representation in the Legislature is concerned.

There have been six Provincial general elections in Saskatchewan, resulting in the election of representatives as shown below:

	Liberals	Conservatives	Independents	Soldiers	Progressive	Labor
1905...	16	9	..	..	..	.
1908...	27	14	..	..	..	..
1912...	46	8	..	..	..	..
1917...	51	7	1	3	..	..
1921...	46	1	15	..	..	1
1925...	51	3	1	..	7	1

The elections of 1912 and 1917 revealing the growing unpopularity and weakness of the Conservative party, its managers in 1921 conceived the idea of running candidates camouflaged as "Independents," hoping thereby to capitalize the Federal Progressive movement, with the result shown above.

Of the seven Progressives elected in 1925, two later on gave their support to the Gardiner Government, while the Labor member has consistently supported the Government as being in the best interests of Labor and the Province as a whole.

Despite the weaknesses and utter failure of Opposition attacks against the Scott and Martin Governments, they contained elements of strength and certain

constructive qualities wholly lacking since Dr. J. T. M. Anderson became Conservative leader, until now the Opposition bases its major hopes on the parrot-like repetition of "It's time for a change!", indulgence in the most petty criticism of insignificant details while ignoring policies and administrative acts of major importance, and in seeking to becloud real and vital issues by the diffusion of poisonous gases of racial and religious discord.

It is also important to note that the present Conservative leader has boasted with pride that his first service to the party he now leads was as a campaigner against Reciprocity in Qu'Appelle constituency in 1911. In his first official address to the electors of Saskatchewan after he became leader, Dr. Anderson went back to the good old policy of High Protection as enunciated by Sir John Macdonald in 1878.

Liberal leaders in Saskatchewan, supported by a united party, and an ever-increasing measure of popular approval, have followed A SASKATCHEWAN POLICY, the basic principle of which has been CO-OPERATION. Not only has Saskatchewan achieved fame and a larger development and prosperity because the principle of Co-operation has been woven all through the fabric of its Provincial structure, but recognition and application of that principle has resulted in the development of a Provincial and community spirit leading to a union of forces, the elimination of many selfish purposes, a will to do and pull together, which is the most outstanding characteristic of the citizenship of Saskatchewan.

The present Conservative campaign is a denial of this great principle of co-operation. It is a campaign which seeks to divide rather than unite. It is a campaign which encourages selfish insistence upon personal prejudice and the excitement of unworthy passions. Dr. Anderson would introduce into Saskatchewan's Provincial administration those very things against which the Wheat Pool, the United Farmers, the Poultry and Live Stock Pools, and all our great Saskatchewan organizations are most desirous of preventing, and which, if permitted, would quickly wreck these influential bodies which are rendering services of incalculable value to all our people. Once introduced into Provincial affairs, the poison of distrust, suspicion, antagonism would quickly spread into and through all public and semi-public organisations. It is essentially an anti-British campaign, the exact opposite of those principles which have made the Empire what it is today.

There are times when a change is necessary, but it is never time to substitute weakness for strength, antagonism for co-operation, dis-union for unity, destructive criticism for constructive action.

Hence, the sane, commonsense, businesslike men and women of Saskatchewan can be depended upon to again record in 1929 the same verdict they rendered in the last six general elections and thereby provide for a continuance of the Liberal policy and programme of Peace, Progress and Prosperity.

Finances of Saskatchewan

IN arriving at the success or failure of the administration of any Government, Dominion or Provincial, or of a municipal council, board of directors of any large corporation, or the manager of any business, one of the first matters to receive consideration is their record of financial administration. In the case of Governments and municipal councils the people want to know to what extent the public debt has been increased and for what purpose and the relation which such increase bears to the increase in population, productive capacity, and wealth of the people called upon to assume such debt, and the effect upon taxation. In the case of corporations and all business enterprises, as well as in the case of Governments, those concerned also want to know whether there has been careful management in expenditures made, due economy consistent with efficiency maintained, extravagance and waste eliminated, and foresight displayed.

That is to say, the financial administration and the balance sheet of any concern, be it public or private, gives a fair indication of the ability and efficiency of its management. In all other respects it may be that great achievements can be shown, but if the financial administration is bad, then disaster lies ahead. Unless the whole structure rests upon a sound financial foundation, there is danger of the whole collapsing.

Because this is true, the financial record of a Government is always one of the first points of attack, and Opposition parties are ever on the alert to criticise and expose weaknesses in the Government's financial policy and administrative record.

It is a most striking tribute to the foresight, efficiency and administrative ability of the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan that the present Opposition in the Legislature offers practically no criticism of, and makes no attack upon, the financial administration of the Gardiner Government. On the contrary, less is said by the Opposition on the score of the Provincial finances than is said about many minor matters of far less importance.

In fact, so satisfied have the Opposition been that no legitimate ground for criticism and attack existed that in session after session of the Legislature they did not even seek to enquire into any one item of expenditure as set forth in the Public Accounts. Although during the four years that have elapsed since the last general election the Government has expended over \$50,000,000 on revenue account alone, it was not until last session that the Opposition even desired a meeting of the Public Accounts Committee, and then the only accounts over which they expressed any curiosity were the expense accounts of some former highways inspectors, amounting in all to a few hundreds of dollars. And in regard to these they declared they had no charges to make but only sought for information.

The truth is that the financial administration of Saskatchewan has been so conspicuously successful, and the Province today occupies such a favorable and strong position in comparison with other Provinces, that it stands in a class by

itself. The Government has been economical and at the same time progressive, not neglecting essentials necessary for the development of the Province but carefully avoiding unwise and unproductive expenditures.

As a result the public debt of Saskatchewan is smaller than that of any other Province west of Quebec, and the rate of taxation lower.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debt of Saskatchewan on January 17, 1929, as announced in the Budget Speech that day, amounts to \$60,990,232. Of this total \$25,217,485 is self-sustaining, leaving a net debt of only \$35,772,746 as a charge on Provincial revenues.

In contrast it is to be noted that the Provincial Treasurer of Alberta in his 1929 Budget Speech stated that the public debt of Alberta amounted on March 31, 1928, to \$87,741,931, of which \$21,896,088 was invested in revenue producing utilities, leaving a net debt of \$65,845,842 as a charge upon the general revenue, or a sum five million dollars greater than the GROSS debt of Saskatchewan. An addition of another \$5,188,686 was made to the net debt of Alberta in the ensuing nine months to December 31, 1928.

To arrive at a true understanding of these figures it is necessary to also remember that Saskatchewan's population is 200,000 greater than that of Alberta. In other words, Alberta's 631,900 people have incurred a net debt of \$71,034,528 during the same period of time that Saskatchewan's 851,000 people have incurred only \$35,772,746.

Or contrast Saskatchewan's position with that of Manitoba. In his Budget Speech, April 4, 1929, Premier Bracken announced a gross public debt as of April 30, 1928, of \$77,050,659, and a net debt as of February 1, 1929, of \$38,409,575.

Saskatchewan is Third Lowest

Saskatchewan stands third lowest of all Canadian Provinces with respect to both gross and net per capita debt. This is disclosed in statistics contained in a recent handbook issued by the Dominion Securities Corporation, and there can be no suggestion of unfairness or partizanship in their preparation. These figures are, it is understood, based on the public debt of each Province at the close of its last fiscal year and the estimated population in 1928:

	Gross Debt	Per Capita	Net Debt	Per Capita
British Columbia.....	\$106,351,130.00	\$182.42	\$ 71,703,779.00	\$122.99
Alberta.....	90,899,816.00	143.85	59,712,115.00	94.49
Manitoba.....	74,850,067.00	114.28	32,199,442.00	49.16
Ontario.....	326,350,000.00	101.06	140,303,000.00	43.45
New Brunswick.....	37,593,056.00	90.59	29,967,151.00	72.21
Nova Scotia.....	40,708,457.00	74.42	27,540,555.00	50.35
Saskatchewan.....	58,492,730.00	68.73	33,830,703.00	39.75
Quebec.....	79,212,226.00	29.93	56,168,951.00	21.22
Prince Edward Island...	1,933,000.00	22.37	1,447,294.00	16.75

Confirmation of the above is to be found in a report by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, which states that "interest paid on the public debt is one of the leading items of expenditure for all provinces," and it presents the following amounts as paid out in interest in 1927 by each Province:

British Columbia.....	\$ 3,684,601
Alberta.....	4,018,611
Saskatchewan.....	2,160,378
Manitoba.....	3,859,648
Ontario.....	19,344,779
Quebec.....	3,839,506
New Brunswick.....	1,072,765
Nova Scotia.....	1,849,637
Prince Edward Island.....	70,020

The fact that Saskatchewan's interest charges are \$1,700,000 per annum less than Manitoba and nearly \$2,000,000 less per annum than Alberta is conclusive evidence of the careful manner in which the Liberal Government of this Province has administered its affairs.

What Caused the Public Debt?

The Public Debt of Saskatchewan was contracted for the following purposes:

Public Buildings.....	\$19,084,622.79
Public Improvements.....	16,519,768.43
Telephones.....	11,397,587.23
Farm Loan Board.....	9,321,983.57
Saskatchewan Pool Elevators.....	2,425,218.63
Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries.....	672,831.30
Drainage Districts.....	384,099.58
Sundry Purposes.....	1,184,120.69

Included in Public Buildings are the Legislative Building, the Provincial Building, Government House, at Regina; University Buildings at Saskatoon; Mental Hospitals at Weyburn and North Battleford; Sanatoria at Fort Qu'Appelle and Saskatoon; Home for the Infirm at Wolseley; Normal Schools at Regina, Saskatoon and Moose Jaw; Gaols at Regina, Prince Albert and Moosomin; Court Houses at Regina, Moose Jaw, Yorkton, Moosomin, Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Battleford, Arcola, Weyburn, Melville, Swift Current, Estevan, Humboldt, Shaunavon, Gravelbourg, Wilkie, Kerrobert, Kindersley, Wynyard, Melfort, Assiniboia, Leader; Land Titles Offices at Regina, Prince Albert, Battleford, Yorkton, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Arcola, Moosomin, Humboldt, Swift Current.

When Saskatchewan was created a Province in 1905 it had no Public Debt, but neither had it any public buildings; consequently Debt had to be created in order to provide the people with these necessary facilities for the transaction of public business, to serve not only the present generation but those to follow. There was no alternative. Either the money had to be borrowed, thus creating Debt, or the people had to do without badly needed public buildings and institutions, except as they could be slowly provided out of current revenues.

And what was true in regard to public buildings was equally true in the matter of the provision of large permanent steel and concrete bridges across our principal rivers, and smaller but permanent bridges over minor streams. So, too, in highway construction, while the bulk of highway expenditure have been met out of current revenues, there were numerous instances of heavy work of a permanent character, the cost of which, it was recognized, should be spread over a number of years. Hence the item in the Public Debt represented by Public Improvements.

Practically all the other items of the Public Debt are self-sustaining and do not constitute a charge upon Revenue. That is to say, the Telephone system, the Farm Loans Board, Advances to the Saskatchewan Pool Elevators and the Co-operative Creameries, Drainage Districts, etc., not only meet the interest on the Debt thus created, but also provide for the ultimate retirement of the principal of the Debt. Thus this portion of the Public Debt does not impose any burden on the whole people, nor does it result in taxation of the people to the extent of a single dollar. It is paid by those who benefit from the services provided by reason of this Debt.

Surpluses vs. Deficits

Viewing the finances from another angle, let us examine the annual balance sheet of the three Western Provinces in recent years.

Saskatchewan in the two years ended April 30, 1928, had a cash surplus of \$137,856.

Alberta in the two years ended December 31, 1927, had a book deficit of \$198,180.

Manitoba in the two years ended April 30, 1928, had a book surplus of \$204,023, followed by a deficit the following year of \$694,311, as estimated by Premier Bracken on April 4, 1929, whereas Saskatchewan will record **ANOTHER SURPLUS.**

During the two years mentioned Saskatchewan took only \$1,200,000 of liquor profits into revenue account, whereas Alberta included \$2,184,361 in 1927 alone, while Manitoba prior to January 1, 1928, took one-half of the profits and subsequent to that date the whole of them.

A Real Surplus

Taking the combined 23 years since Saskatchewan became a Province, all the time under Liberal administration, the Province has enjoyed a balanced budget. That is to say, while there have been deficits in some years, these have been offset by surpluses in other years. The net result is that, taking the whole period, Saskatchewan had at the end of the fiscal year, April 30, 1928, **A NET SURPLUS OF CASH ON HAND OF \$137,856.**

Possibly most important of all is the fact that because the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan has succeeded in maintaining a balanced budget, not one dollar of the Public Debt has resulted from the capitalization of deficits on current account or losses sustained in the management of utilities and services.

That is to say, every dollar of Saskatchewan's Public Debt is represented by an actual Provincial asset in the form of buildings, highways, bridges, telephone system, or other investment. No interest is paid by Saskatchewan on deficits incurred in annual administration.

This is in sharp contrast with other Provinces. Manitoba has had to capitalize losses incurred in connection with elevators, rural credits and hydro system. Alberta has had to add to its Public Debt losses incurred in the operation of its railways, as well as deficits in current account. In other words, part of the debt of these sister Provinces has nothing tangible to show for the debt created.

GOVERNMENT TAXATION

The Government of Saskatchewan levies only one general tax on all the people, namely, The Public Revenue Tax, and which amounts to one and one-half mills on the dollar of the assessed value of property holdings. Prior to 1927 this tax amounted to two mills, but in that year the Gardiner Government made a 25 per cent. cut in the tax, or a relinquishment of taxation to the extent of approximately \$500,000 annually.

Other taxes levied by Saskatchewan are the motor license tax and the gasoline tax which, while not specifically ear-marked for that purpose, are all expended in road construction and maintenance; the Wild Lands Tax, the taxation imposed on railways, corporations, insurance companies, etc.

Saskatchewan does not levy an Income Tax, Amusement Tax, Soft Drinks Tax, Personal Property Tax, all of which are imposed in some, and most of them in all, the neighboring Provinces.

Nor, does Saskatchewan, unlike Provinces to the east and west, pass back to the municipalities in whole or in part the Province's 50% share of Old Age Pensions. In Manitoba the municipalities have to bear the 50% of Old Age Pensions charged to the Province; in Alberta 10% is charged against the municipalities; in Ontario the municipalities are called upon to pay 20%. In Saskatchewan the Provincial Government pays the full amount without adding one cent to the burdens of the municipalities.

Apart from the gasoline tax, provided for in response to a Province-wide demand for larger revenues and expenditures for roads, the Gardiner Government has imposed no new taxation, on the contrary, as already stated, it reduced the Public Revenue Tax by 25% thus remitting \$500,000 of taxation.

Out of every dollar of revenue received by the Saskatchewan Government, only 16 cents is derived from taxation levied on all the people, and 3 cents from wild lands tax. On the other hand, 27 cents out of every dollar comes in the form of cash grants from the Dominion Government, 11 cents from railways and other corporations and businesses, nearly 22 cents in licenses of one kind or another, slightly over 9 cents from fines, fees, etc., nearly 2 cents from earnings of institutions, another 2 cents in the form of repayment of advances and loans (other than on Capital), and something over 7 cents from miscellaneous sources.

While on the subject of Provincial Taxation, it is of interest to compare the amounts collected by the municipalities for local government purposes with

those collected by the Provincial Government. These are set forth in detail in the following comparative statement for the year 1927:

		Per capita based on the 1926 census population of 820,738	
Municipal Taxation 1927 Levy			
General Municipal.....	\$ 9,885,865.42		
Schools.....	11,097,892.11		
Telephones.....	1,897,526.45		
Hail.....	1,430,905.18		
Frontage and Special.....	631,626.95		
Hospitals.....	73,487.27		
Drainage.....	21,271.66		
	<hr/>	\$25,038,575.04	\$30.51
Provincial Taxation			
Public Revenue, 1927 Levy.....	\$ 1,692,210.80		
Wild Lands, 1927 Levy.....	383,554.05		
Inheritance Collections, 1927-28	363,201.52		
Corporation Collections, 1927-28	507,936.24		
Timber Berths Collections,			
1927-28.....	8,783.20		
Railways Collections, 1927-28..	349,000.00		
Fur Royalties Collections,			
1927-28.....	44,872.79		
	<hr/>	\$3,349,558.60	\$4.08
or, inclusive of Motor Licenses—			
Motor Licenses.....	\$2,265,836.26	\$5,615,394.86	6.84

It will be seen that Provincial taxation amounts to only \$4.08 per head of population as compared with Municipal taxation of \$30.51 per head, or, if motor licenses are included and distributed over the entire population, Provincial taxation would amount to \$6.84 per head.

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Revenues and expenditures are both increasing, a natural outcome of the growth of population and the resultant need of larger and frequently newer services to meet the demands of a growing Province. Expenditures come under two heads, Capital and Current, the former of which has been dealt with under Public Debt. The latter are divided into two classes, Controllable and Uncontrollable.

Expenditures uncontrollable by the Government are those which are fixed by Statute as, for example, grants to hospitals, schools, the University, mothers' allowances, etc. So far as these expenditures are concerned, the Government must pay out the sums authorised by Statutes passed by the Legislature. The Government cannot reduce them; it must simply obey the law.

Bearing this fact in mind, an analysis of the expenditure of the Province discloses whether the present Government can be held guilty of the charge sometimes made by political opponents that it has not made any real effort to reduce expenditures. Take the figures for the past seven years:

Year	Uncontrollable (Fixed by Statute)	Controllable
1921-22.....	\$6,290,148	\$6,330,473
1922-23.....	6,809,159	5,496,725
1923-24.....	6,870,754	5,063,000
1924-25.....	7,122,856	4,894,475
1925-26.....	7,899,001	4,862,788
1926-27.....	7,347,789	5,117,377
1927-28.....	7,861,519	5,063,575

These figures are deserving of more than passing attention. They disclose that, whereas uncontrollable expenditures have grown from \$6,290,148 in 1921-22 to \$7,861,519 in 1927-28, an increase of \$1,571,371, expenditures under the control of the Government have dropped from \$6,330,473 in 1922-23 to \$5,063,575 in 1927-28, a decrease of \$1,266,898. In this connection it is worthy of note that, despite the great growth of the Province during the past two or three years imposing many new demands upon the Government, the controllable expenditure today is exactly the same as it was five years ago.

It may be argued that the Government, having a majority in the Legislature, could bring about a reduction in uncontrollable expenditures through the enactment of legislation reducing grants. This is true, but for every dollar taken from present grants, municipalities and school districts would be obliged to levy an additional dollar in their respective districts or suffer loss in educational efficiency. The Government could abolish allowances to widowed and dependent mothers, but this would only mean transferring responsibility for their support upon the municipalities. The Government might thus establish a reputation for economy and smaller expenditures, but it would be at the expense of the municipalities and would not bring any relief to the taxpayer.

That is, in the matter of the very large sums disbursed in school grants, hospital grants, mothers' allowances, etc.—and all of which are increasing from year to year—the Government was merely a collecting and distributing agency. The money was not expended by the Government, but was returned by the Government to be expended by the people themselves through their school and hospital organizations or individually by deserving mothers.

(See Appendix "A" of this Handbook for analysis of current revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1928).

WHY SASKATCHEWAN'S DEBT AND TAXATION IS LIGHT

Opposition speakers endeavor to explain away the better position of Saskatchewan in the matter of Public Debt, Expenditures and Taxation by declaring that Alberta contracted a large debt by reason of the railways it built, and which being operated with large deficits has imposed a heavy burden on the people; or in the case of Manitoba that it went in for government ownership and opera-

tion of elevators, and lost a lot of money in so doing; or in the case of British Columbia that it, too, launched into railway enterprises which have proved anything but financial successes.

Admitting these things, does it not merely demonstrate once again that the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan has exercised forethought and wisdom in its management of Provincial Affairs? If Saskatchewan's public debt and taxation burden is lighter than that of its sister Provinces because it did not venture upon enterprises which proved disastrous in the other Provinces, then the credit is due to the Liberal Government of this Province.

Saskatchewan Conservatives tried hard enough to stampede Saskatchewan into government ownership and operation of elevators, and demanded the defeat of the Scott Government because it refused to be stampeded but inaugurated instead the Co-operative Elevator system in the face of strong Tory opposition. The Tory Government of Manitoba was stampeded and, finally the Bracken Government had to dispose of the elevators, the Province taking a capital loss of \$698,016, plus an operating loss of \$161,634, on a total investment of \$1,354,096. (See Bracken's last Budget Speech, April 4, 1929).

In the matter of railways, when the Saskatchewan Liberal Government announced its policy of encouraging construction of branch lines through the giving of bond guarantees, the Tory Opposition in the Legislature declared that it would not result in the construction of a single line of railway. Nevertheless, the Liberals persisted in their policy with the result that thousands of miles of branch lines were built without costing the Province one dollar. Saskatchewan has had no railway debt upon which to pay interest and no railway operating deficits to meet. But there has been greater railway development in Saskatchewan in the last twenty years than in any other Province of Canada with the result that today Saskatchewan has a greater railway mileage than any Province in the Dominion, except Ontario. At the present time more railway construction is projected for Saskatchewan than for all the rest of the Provinces combined.

Education

EDUCATION has always occupied first place among public questions in the estimation of the people of Saskatchewan, ranking in that respect with public health. It has remained in the very forefront throughout the years that have elapsed since the Province was created in 1905, and has always been regarded as the most important of all subjects occupying the attention of the Government during and since the days of Hon. Walter Scott.

The fact that more than one-third of all Provincial Government expenditures today are on account of education is in itself sufficient proof that it still remains in the very front rank of Government policy, and is accorded by Premier Gardiner that position of honor it so fully deserves.

With the formation of the first Government of the Province, Walter Scott laid it down as a cardinal principle of his Administration that the whole subject of education and of schools administration should be kept absolutely free of partizan politics, and his successors in the premiership, W. M. Martin, C. A. Dunning and J. G. Gardiner have upheld and strictly adhered to that policy.

Responsibility for any departure from it rests with the Conservative party and notably with Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, who, as an educationist, and a former school inspector, fully informed as to the accepted policy of the people of this Province, should have been the last man to render such dis-service to the cause of education in Saskatchewan as to project it into the arena of partizan political discussion.

Anderson Violates the Pact

Once the autonomy legislation was approved by the people of Saskatchewan, Sir F. W. G. Haultain, as Opposition leader, joined forces with the Scott Government in its laudable ambition to keep education out of party politics, and, in this respect, the University of Saskatchewan stands as a monument to him just as truly as it does to Walter Scott. Later, Hon. W. B. Willoughby, as leader of the Conservative Opposition, united with Mr. Scott in the latter's splendid Better Schools Movement. Hon. Donald McLean pursued the same enlightened and patriotic course. It has remained for Dr. J. T. M. Anderson to violate the pact and sow the seeds of partizanship in the field of discussion of school problems and administration in this Province.

Dr. Anderson declares that 95 per cent. of his criticism of the Liberal Government is because of its educational policy and administration, thus leaving only 5 per cent. to cover Financial Administration, Highways, Public Works, Public Health, Telephones, Agriculture, Natural Resources, Labour and Industries, Municipal Affairs, Liquor System, Power Policy, Administration of Justice, and all the other multifarious activities of the Government. It will be seen, therefore, that Dr. Anderson either has little ground of criticism or complaint against the Gardiner Government, or that he is prepared to "go the limit" in dragging educational problems into the controversial arena of party politics.

It would appear that Dr. Anderson, lacking any substantial ground of criticism and attack of the Government's record, and unable to formulate any alternative policy, has deliberately set out to stir up feeling over a subject he knows lies so close to the hearts of the people of Saskatchewan. Whatever his motive, he is rendering poor service to his Province and is proving his utter unfitness for the position of First Citizen of Saskatchewan and the responsible head of its Government.

Boiled down, what does Dr. Anderson's criticism of the Government's educational policy amount to? What does he offer as a substitute, and to what extent do his party followers accept that substitute?

Separate Schools a Constitutional Right

First, Dr. Anderson criticizes the separation of children on the schools' playgrounds of the Province in so far as that is brought about by reason of the fact that out of 4,826 school districts there are 31 separate school districts. And in offering such criticism Dr. Anderson knows that if he became Premier and Minister of Education tomorrow he could not change that condition. He knows that the right to establish separate schools, both Protestant and Roman Catholic, is conferred by the constitution of Saskatchewan and that neither he, nor the Legislature, nor the Parliament of Canada can take that right away.

Dr. Anderson also talks about making English the language of instruction in the schools. Yet he knows, none better, that English is the language of instruction in all schools, public and separate, and that the only exception is that French may be used in the First Grade during the first year, but no longer and nowhere else, and that no other language may be used at any time or in any school. He also knows that advantage of even this minor exception can only be taken when the board of trustees themselves so decide.

Religious Instruction a Constitutional Right

Dr. Anderson also criticizes the provision in The School Act which permits one-half hour of religious instruction prior to school closing in the afternoon, provided the board of trustees so decide, but which, nevertheless, no child shall be obliged to attend unless the parents so decide. But, as in the case of separate schools, Dr. Anderson knows that this right of religious instruction is part and parcel of the constitution of Saskatchewan, and neither he nor anybody else can alter it.

Dr. Anderson has recently declared his opposition to the presence of any religious emblems in the schools, and would prohibit the wearing of any religious garb by teachers—declarations which smack very much of Soviet Russia.

In fact, Dr. Anderson goes farther than any other public man in Canada in his opposition to any religious influence affecting the life of school children. Speaking at Moose Jaw on April 4, 1929, he is reported in the press as declaring:

"We stand definitely behind the public school, irrespective of race or religion, where children can study, play and grow up together
WITHOUT THE INFLUENCE OF RELIGION."

Thus, in his own words, and in direct violation of both the letter and spirit of the constitution of this Christian Province, Dr. Anderson declares in favour of absolutely Godless schools.

Anderson Encourages School Troubles

And what is all the fuss about? An isolated case of a quarrel or misunderstanding in a school here and there out of the thousands that are getting along satisfactorily and without friction. And even in these isolated cases, where the trouble is usually the outcome of an unreasoning prejudice on the part of a few individuals, satisfactory understandings are reached through compromises and the exercise of commonsense and in a spirit of British fairness to all. Dr. Anderson talks much about British ideals, British supremacy, but his whole campaign is a denial of those very principles and administrative policies which made Great Britain the greatest and most successful colonizer the world has ever known, and which alone made possible the great British Empire of today. Furthermore, it is a fact beyond successful contradiction that there are fewer school troubles in Saskatchewan arising out of differences of race and creed than there are over alteration of school district boundaries, selection of school sites, or the engagement of teachers.

Yet it is on just such flimsy pretexts that Dr. Anderson has plunged Saskatchewan's educational system into the vortex of party strife.

Nor should the fact be overlooked that The School Act provides all necessary machinery for the settlement of these local troubles, and stipulates penalties to be imposed for violation of the provisions of the Act. As a patriotic citizen concerned about the welfare of the Province, Dr. Anderson should advise those running to him with stories of local school quarrels, or local violations of the Act of which he makes so much on the election platform, to lay their complaints before their own elected board of trustees and have the machinery of the law set in motion to rectify any violations of the provisions of the Act.

Criticism is Puerile

The trifling nature of Dr. Anderson's criticism of even the Liberal educational policy (and which, be it remembered, he says represents 95 per cent. of all of his criticism of the Gardiner Government) is easily exposed. For example, in the last four fiscal years the Government has expended the following sums on education alone:

1924-25	\$ 3,046,889.17
1925-26	3,796,881.26
1926-27	3,347,649.38
1927-28	3,785,480.55
	<hr/>
	\$13,976,900.36

Dr. Anderson does not challenge one cent of this huge expenditure which for the four years, is equivalent to the entire current revenue of the Province for one year. But he picks upon some disagreement in a local school district and makes the welkin ring (not in the district concerned, but elsewhere), and seeks to create the impression that the whole educational system of Saskatchewan is deserving of condemnation.

As a matter of fact Saskatchewan's school system is unexcelled not only in Canada but on this continent, a fact to which testimony has been borne by numerous educationists of far greater repute than the present Tory Leader.

Saskatchewan Leads the Provinces

Compare, for example, the expenditures made by the several Provincial Governments on education, the figures quoted below being a compilation made by the Editor of "The Monetary Times," of Toronto:

	Provincial Expenditures on Education, 1926	Population, 1927	Per Capita Expenditure
Alberta.....	\$2,110,274	617,000	\$3.42
British Columbia.....	3,149,952	575,000	5.48
Manitoba.....	2,114,449	647,000	3.27
New Brunswick.....	553,471	411,000	1.35
Nova Scotia.....	720,433	543,000	1.33
Ontario.....	9,190,734	3,187,000	2.88
Prince Edward Island.....	280,662	86,700	3.24
Quebec.....	2,740,980	2,604,000	1.05
Saskatchewan.....	3,796,881	836,000	4.54

The Saskatchewan Government, it will be noted, contributes a larger sum annually towards the cost of education than any Province, except Ontario, while its per capita contribution is much greater than Ontario, and second only to British Columbia.

In the fiscal year 1927-28 expenditures on education amounted to \$3,785,480.55, or 35.16 cents out of every dollar expended by the Government for all purposes, and approximately three-quarters of this large sum was paid out in grants to school districts. Eliminate these grants and leave to Municipalities and School Districts the whole burden of financing the schools, and the Government could wipe out its two main items of taxation—the Public Revenue and Wild Lands Taxes, and have a balance left over.

So far as these educational grants are concerned the Government is merely a collecting and administrative agency for the people of the Province in order that the cost of education may be distributed as equitably as possible over the whole Province and the newer settlements and poorer districts provided with school facilities which otherwise would be denied to them.

Included in the one-quarter of expenditure for educational purposes over and above grants, are the costs of school inspection; maintenance of Normal Schools; costs of conducting examinations; grants to the University; provision of free readers which otherwise would have to be provided by parents, constituting a very real and direct charge upon poorer families where there are several children of school age; special grants to provide for the education of the children of deceased and disabled soldiers.

Real Educational Advancement

The growth of what may be termed the material plant of Saskatchewan's educational system has been phenomenal, and without parallel elsewhere. As already indicated education constitutes the heaviest of all demands upon the Provincial treasury. When the magnitude of our educational establishment and expenditure is considered the puerile nature of Dr. Anderson's criticisms are thrown into strong relief and more fully realized.

When Saskatchewan was inaugurated as a Province in September, 1905, there were 896 organized school districts dotted here and there over its vast extent of territory, no secondary schools, no colleges, no University, and but one small Normal class conducted in rented quarters.

At the close of 1928 there were 4,826 elementary school districts, 21 collegiate institutes and high schools with high school work being carried on in 381 continuation schools, three large Normal Schools at Regina, Saskatoon and Moose Jaw with a total of 1,464 teachers in training, numerous colleges, and a Provincial University and College of Agriculture with magnificent and splendidly equipped buildings at Saskatoon and an enrolment (1928) of 1,262 students in the regular courses; 1,260 in short courses, and 25,000 in the extension courses.

Steady Improvement is Maintained

With all this vast expenditure of time and money, and the creation of such an extensive equipment, what has been the actual improvement in the education of Saskatchewan's youth?

In 1906 only 2 1/3 children out of every 1,000 reached Grade Eight. In 1927 the number was 88.2 out of every 1,000.

In 1906 there were only 809 students doing high school work, but with no high schools as such in existence. In 1927, with 21 collegiate institutes and high schools, 361 continuation schools, and some high school work being taught in a total of 1,896 schools, there were 20,118 students doing high school work.

In 1906 only 37 first class and 157 second class teachers were trained in Saskatchewan. In 1925 there were 285 first class, 609 second class and 808 third class teachers trained, and, noting the more recent advances made, in 1927 the number of first class teachers trained increased to 334, second class teachers to 898, while third class teachers decreased to 282, thus revealing the higher standard now demanded.

Whereas in earlier years Saskatchewan had to import a very large percentage of its teachers and grant many provisional certificates in order to enable schools to operate, today Saskatchewan is training sufficient teachers, with much higher qualifications, to supply all schools in the Province.

(NOTE.—For further information and statistics regarding schools see Appendix "B" of this Handbook, also pamphlet entitled: "Saskatchewan's Women and Children.")

Public Health

A COUNTRY'S most valuable asset is its people. There is no dispute about that. Consequently, a country's first consideration is the health of its citizens; and the first duty of a Government is the preservation of the public health.

There is nothing spectacular in the perennial campaign against disease. It is a war of attrition against an inveterate enemy, with the battlefield constantly changing. The conquest of preventable disease is slow, but progress has been steady. Nowhere on the American Continent has greater progress been made than in the Province of Saskatchewan under Liberal Government.

Achievements in Saskatchewan conclusively prove that Liberal Government in this Province has been ever mindful of the first duty of a Government to its people. They testify that the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan has measured up to its first and greatest test and requirement.

Saskatchewan, since 1922, has enjoyed the proud distinction of having the lowest death rate of any country in the world recording vital statistics.

Saskatchewan, for several years, has had the enviable record of recording the lowest death rate from tuberculosis of Canadian Provinces.

These results have not been achieved fortuitously.

The Liberal Government, through the Department of Public Health, has exercised constant vigilance over the health of the people of the Province. It has placed on the statute books some of the most advanced public health legislation to be found in the world. Its record of achievement in the fight against disease is long and exemplary, and

15% OF ALL MONEYS EXPENDED BY THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN EXPENDED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PHYSICAL WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE OF SASKATCHEWAN.

Preventive rather than remedial measures constitute the chief function of a government acting through its Department of Public Health. It is not concerned so much with the cure as with the prevention of disease, but, to the extent that it co-operates with the clinician, the hospital and the dispensary, it performs the dual function of safeguarding the hale and helping to restore the sick to health.

That the Department has performed these functions to the satisfaction of the people of Saskatchewan is proved by the fact that no criticism of the administration or work of the Department has been voiced at any time by any member of the Opposition.

DISEASE PREVENTION

Disease prevention being the chief function of the Department of Public Health, following is a brief resume of the more important agencies and services created for the purpose.

SANITATION: Through the Division of Sanitation, close and unremitting attention has been concentrated on protecting the people of the province against unnecessary exposure to disease from the things they daily use or with which they come in contact. Engineers and sanitary officers employed by the Department have ensured that all possible precautionary steps have been taken to guard public water and milk supplies from contamination; have maintained constant supervision over municipal sewerage plants and water works, and have taken steps to prevent pollution of running streams.

Saskatchewan today has, perhaps, the best sanitary regulations on the continent.

The consequence is that Saskatchewan has been singularly free from outbreaks of contagious disease which have reached epidemic proportions, in recent years.

Significant testimony to the value of the work done by this division are statistics relative to the incidence of typhoid fever. In 1911, the death rate from typhoid fever in Saskatchewan was 33 per 100,000 of population. In 1927, it was 2.5 per 100,000 as against 11.7 for the whole Dominion.

HEALTH DISTRICTS: Creation of groups of rural municipalities into Public Health Districts was made possible by legislation enacted at the 1928 session of the Provincial Legislature. One such district, centering on Gravelbourg, has been established. The effect of this scheme is to carry into rural areas the same health and sanitary services as are enjoyed in the cities and larger urban centres. Cost of the scheme, estimated at \$14,000 per district, providing for a medical health officer, a sanitary officer, public health nurse, and a secretary-technician, is borne 50% by the co-operating rural municipalities, 25% by the Provincial Government and 25% by the Rockefeller Foundation.

In this advanced legislation, Saskatchewan gave the lead to Western Provinces.

NURSING: The Division of Public Health Nursing now includes the School Hygiene nurses who have been transferred from the Department of Education. Nurses have all been assigned districts and the former School Hygiene nurses instead of doing only school work, do generalised public health nursing, including inspection in schools, home visiting, organising and assisting with immunisation work among the children, and assisting at pre-school examination clinics. They also supervise the home treatment for trachoma, inspect private nursing and maternity homes, give lecture and demonstration courses on home nursing, and organise junior health leagues among older children.

Sixteen nurses are employed in this service.

Free Clinics for the examination of children of pre-school age are conducted by the Department in conjunction with this Division and in co-operation with women's organisations throughout the Province.

From May to December 31, 1928, the nurses visited 646 schools; inspected 19,670 children; gave 940 health talks; arranged for and assisted at 93 pre-school clinics at which 3,546 children were examined; assisted local doctors at 74 schools in connection with vaccination and toxoid work; made 622 visits in connection with trachoma; made 204 visits in connection with tuberculosis; inspected 17 nursing homes; addressed 57 meetings and made 9,222 home visits. In addition, a considerable amount of literature has been distributed by the Department, including pre-natal letters, a booklet entitled "The Baby," diet lists for children, layette patterns. Silver nitrate solution has been supplied for use by doctors for the prevention of sore eyes among babies.

In co-operation with the dental profession, the Department has conducted a province-wide oral hygiene campaign as a preventive to heart diseases which produce the greatest number of deaths.

All these invaluable services in the cause of public health are given free of charge.

IMMUNISATION AND INOCULATION: The Department of Public Health, for a number of years, has furnished free of charge to physicians of the province, smallpox vaccine, diphtheria toxoid and anti-toxin, scarlet fever toxin and anti-toxin, typhoid vaccine, anti-tetanus serum and anti-meningitis serum.

The results of this service are well-defined.

In the five years, 1923 to 1927, nearly 300,000,000 units of diphtheria antitoxin have been issued by the Department at a cost of approximately \$40,000 to the province. More than 150,000 persons have been immunised by toxoid inoculation. The result is that deaths from diphtheria in the province dropped from 116 in 1926 to 63 in 1927 and to 34 in the first ten months of 1928.

The Department aims at stamping out diphtheria by 1930.

A total of 186,350 persons were vaccinated against smallpox in the five-year period, 1923 to 1927.

The result is that outbreaks of this disease have been so controlled that no epidemics have been experienced in recent years in the province.

By means of vaccination, smallpox can be eradicated. This is the aim of the Department.

Typhoid vaccine has been administered to 22,000 persons in the five-year period. Some 1,419,500 units of anti-tetanus serum have been issued.

Total cost of vaccines and sera issued by the Department in the five years was \$83,642.

BENEFICIAL AND REMEDIAL SERVICES

MATERNITY GRANTS: These grants are given to expectant mothers who, living in rural districts considerable distances removed from medical, hospital or nursing aid, for financial or other reasons are unable to procure such aid for themselves or their expected children. Limited to a maximum of \$25.00 per mother, these grants have proved highly beneficial and have had a potent effect in reducing the maternal mortality rate. These grants were instituted by order-in-council in 1920, and since their inception have been paid as follows:

Fiscal year	Amount paid	Mothers benefited
1919-20..	\$ 441.00	18
1920-21...	3,120.00	125
1921-22	6,275.00	253
1922-23.	6,855.00	286
1923-24.	9,469.00	427
1924-25.....	10,595.00	417
1925-26	11,852.50	496
1926-27	8,450.00	505
1927-28.....	11,100.40	467

FREE TUBERCULOSIS TREATMENT: Free care and treatment of tubercular patients was provided for by legislation enacted at the 1928-29 session of the Provincial Legislature, under arrangement with the municipal organisations and the Anti-Tuberculosis League. Under this scheme, the most advanced of its kind in the world, the Provincial Government assumes responsibility for all capital expenditures and, in addition, contributes \$1.00 per patient per hospital day toward the cost of care and treatment.

HOSPITAL AID: All approved hospitals are entitled to a grant from the Government of 50 cents per patient per day toward their cost of operation. In 1927, the Government grants to hospitals totalled \$467,995 and the amount is increasing year by year as bed capacity increases. (See table.) The Hospital Regulations require that all Government-aided hospitals provide at least one-tenth of their bed capacity for maternity cases.

Under legislation enacted by the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan, adjacent municipalities are authorised to co-operate in the establishment of Union Municipal Hospitals, which, in addition to qualifying for the Government grant, receive assistance from the Department of Public Health in the work of organisation and construction. The Union Hospital Act enables residents of rural districts to provide adequate hospital accommodation in these districts.

HOSPITAL INSPECTIONS: All maternity homes, private hospitals, rescue homes and other homes or institutions for the care of children are subject to inspection by Departmental officials. Such institutions must obtain a license from the Department, annually, entitling them to operate.

FREE LABORATORY SERVICE is provided by the Provincial Bacteriological Laboratory in which, during 1928, approximately 26,000 examinations were made, including nearly 9,000 Wassermann tests and 4,000 throat swabs. More than 18,000 culture media were issued. This service is of inestimable value to doctors, hospitals and public institutions. The Wassermann tests alone, if made in a commercial laboratory, would have cost the Government \$45,000. In addition, technicians are trained for service in parts of the province where laboratory facilities are not available.

FREE TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE is provided at six dispensaries throughout the province, approximately 25% of the cost being borne by the Federal Government. The cost to the Provincial Government in 1927-28 was approximately \$21,000.

FREE ADVICE ON DIETETICS is made available for the smaller hospitals of the province through the agency of the Travelling Dietitian employed by the Department.

TWO ADVANCED POLICIES

CANCER RESEARCH: The up-to-date and progressive character of the Liberal Government's health policies is exemplified in the manner in which it has made preparations to grapple with the menace of cancer. Taking an increasingly large toll of human life and already ranking as the third greatest killer among diseases in the province, cancer has become a world problem. Investigation and analysis of the incidence of cancer in Saskatchewan was made during 1928 by officials of the Department. This was done with a view to conducting a province-wide campaign for its prevention and of organising to put into operation the results of the intensive research into its causes upon which some of the greatest medical scientists of the day are engaged. Saskatchewan was first of Canadian provinces to make an exhaustive study and investigation of the incidence of cancer.

MENTAL HYGIENE RESEARCH: The Government of Saskatchewan has adopted an advanced policy in dealing with the serious problem presented by the ever-increasing number of persons suffering from mental disabilities, with a view to protecting the mental health of the children of the Province. Mental Hygiene research work will be undertaken in the province which will be directed toward the study of the beginnings of mental and social maladjustment in children. Means will be provided whereby a Government Psychiatrist and a trained social worker will be enabled to study the problem abroad, as preliminary step to the establishment of a Mental Hygiene Clinic in Saskatoon and eventually in other parts of the province. Thus will be created a Mental Hygiene Division of the Department of Public Health which will work in co-operation with the University of Saskatchewan and the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene.

Conclusion

Nothing has been said in the foregoing concerning the educational work and health propaganda conducted by the Department. The summary, incomplete as it may be, bears eloquent testimony to the fact that, in the Department of Public Health as in other Departments, the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan has been and is frequently in advance of, always abreast of, and never behind the times.

Growth of Government Grants to Hospitals

1924-25.....	\$265,886.50
1925-26.....	388,477.50
1926-27.....	454,785.50
1927-28.....	467,995.00

Highways

INTELLIGENT understanding and consideration of the subject of highways in Saskatchewan must be based first of all on exact knowledge of the system followed in (1) planning, (2) constructing, (3) maintaining the roads.

The leader of the Conservative party and his Legislative followers have sought to convey the impression that the Liberal Government is directly responsible for every piece of bad road in the Province, whereas they should know this is not the case.

Roads in Saskatchewan fall into three classes:

Provincial Highways system.....	7,300 miles
Main Market Roads system.....	25,000 miles
Local Roads.....	178,000 miles
	<hr/>
	210,300 miles

The Government is directly responsible for only the Provincial Highways system, and becomes responsible for the maintenance of the mileage included in that system only after it has been built by the Highways Department up to the standard adopted for the system.

The municipalities are responsible for the construction and maintenance of the Main Market Roads, but the Government makes grants to the municipalities to assist them in creating and maintaining this system.

Local Roads, including both construction and maintenance, are left entirely to the municipalities, except in Local Improvement Districts.

With this clear understanding of policy it will be seen that the Government is responsible only for the state of the roads included in the Provincial Highways system and which have been constructed to the required standard. At the end of 1928 this system totalled approximately 3,500 miles completed and 300 miles under construction.

The Provincial Highways

The Provincial Highways system was first planned following the passage of The Canada Highways Act by the Dominion Parliament in 1919 which set aside \$20,000,000 for highway construction to be divided pro rata among the Provinces according to population, Saskatchewan's share being \$1,800,000.

In 1921 the Saskatchewan Provincial Highway system was planned under the direction of Hon. S. J. Latta, Minister of Highways in the Martin Government. The actual work of construction was commenced the following year, Hon. J. G. Gardiner having in the meantime become Minister of Highways in the Dunning Government. By the end of 1924 a survey of the 7,000 odd miles of road included in the system had been completed. It was found that 1,707 miles had been completed; that 1,475 miles were in good condition; that 2,890 miles were in fair condition, and that 928 miles were in bad condition.

A Commonsense Policy

The policy followed by the Government was, first, to construct the 928 miles of bad road up to standard in order to place the whole system in passable condition; then to construct the 2,890 miles of fair road up to standard so that the whole system could be classified as good main road; then to construct the 1,475 miles of good road up to standard, when the whole system would consist of excellent road.

It was also the declared policy of the Government that when approximately one-half of this work was completed,—that is, when the 928 miles of bad road and the 2,890 miles of only fair road had been built up to standard,—to commence the work of gravelling the surface of these standard earth roads

In the six years, 1919–1925, a total of 1,607 miles of the Provincial Highways system had been completed to standard requirements and over \$1,500,000 of the Dominion subsidy earned, while the total expenditure on the system had amounted to \$4,030,062.

That was the position of the system at the time of the last Provincial general election in June, 1925. Since then the following mileage has been completed: 1925–26, 393 miles; 1926–27, 605 miles; 1927–28, 270 miles (bad weather caused delay); 1928–29, 748 miles, making the present completed total 3,624 miles.

In other words, during the four years intervening since the last election **OVER 2,000 MILES** of the Provincial Highways system has been built to the approved standard.

Furthermore, when in 1928 it was seen that the half way point in the completion of the system would be reached, the Government, in accordance with its previously declared policy, began the work of gravelling, and before the close of last season's work approximately 400 miles of gravelled highway had been completed, including the oiled and gravelled experimental road running east and west of Regina.

Construction Being Speeded Up

Premier Gardiner has announced the policy of the Government to be the gravelling of an additional 600 miles of highway during the summer of 1929, and the building of another 2,000 miles of the system up to standard during 1929 and the ensuing three years, coupled with the continuance of the gravelling programme.

That is, by the end of another Legislative term, the whole Provincial Highways system will be very near to completion and Saskatchewan will possess at least eight fine highways running north and south from the U.S. boundary to the fringe of northern settlement, and another eight running east and west across the Province from Manitoba to Alberta.

Public Debt Kept Down

And this will have been accomplished without loading the Province with an unwieldy burden of debt, because it has been the policy of Mr. Gardiner, both as Minister of Highways in the Dunning Government and as Premier since 1926, to largely follow a "pay as you go" policy; that is to say, while

money has been borrowed to meet the cost of permanent steel and concrete bridges, and to some extent for heavy expenditures which are of a permanent character in the creation of the Provincial Highways system, the bulk of the expenditure has been made out of current revenues.

Unlike the policy advocated by the Conservative party of borrowing tens of millions of dollars for road construction to be added to the public debt, the Gardiner Government announces its intention of adhering to the policy of meeting the bulk of highway expenditures out of current revenues, and that of the \$20,-000,000 to be expended in 1929 and the three succeeding years, only \$5,000,000 will be borrowed money.

All Motor License Fees and Gasoline Taxes Spent on Roads

In this connection it is significant to note that up to 1928 Saskatchewan stood almost alone among the Provinces in providing its major highway expenditures out of current revenue and without imposing a gasoline tax upon the people. In 1928 a gasoline tax of three cents a gallon was imposed, every cent of which is being expended in speeding up the highway construction programme.

The Opposition advocate the ear-marking of motor license fees, and gasoline tax proceeds solely for highway purposes. In some quarters a demand is also made that a portion of the liquor profits be ear-marked for the same purpose. Experience in government in all countries has demonstrated the wisdom of not specifically ear-marking any particular revenues for a given purpose. Conditions change, revenues fluctuate, emergencies arise which have to be met, and the financial structure of a Province is always stronger where specific revenues are not set apart for specific purposes.

The Liberal Government of Saskatchewan, while adhering to this wise policy, has nevertheless expanded its road construction programmes in keeping with the increase in revenues from motor license fees, and again when the gasoline tax was imposed. Grouping together all the revenues derived from these sources in the past, it will be found that not only have they all been spent in highway construction and maintenance, but that millions of dollars over and above these revenues have been devoted to the same purpose. It is the declared policy of the Gardiner Government to continue this policy in the years to come.

Assistance to Municipalities

It is also the declared policy of the Government to continue assistance to the municipalities in the construction and maintenance of Main Market Roads, a policy it would be well nigh impossible to carry out if tens of millions of dollars were borrowed for Provincial Highway construction and upon which the Province would have to pay large sums in interest annually, thus leaving little current revenue to assist municipalities with the secondary system of Main Market Roads, but which are absolutely essential to the whole rural community, and without which the Provincial Highway system would lose much of its value to the farmers of Saskatchewan.

The following expenditures by the Government on Main Market Roads indicates, to some extent, the assistance given to Rural Municipalities in developing their road programmes:

	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29
Construction under contracts with Rural Municipalities	\$197,406	\$177,558	\$172,603	\$229,290.64	\$318,827.05
Construction by Departmental road crews	179,638	174,468	154,119	169,304.42	192,867.88
Construction and repair of bridges	92,700	118,973	103,392	95,640.27	106,025.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$469,744	\$470,999	\$430,114	\$494,235.33	\$617,719.93

These annual sums approximate closely to the interest charges on a Bond issue of \$10,000,000. Such assistance to Rural Municipalities would NOT be possible under the Conservative policy of a \$20,000,000 Bond issue to pay for Paved Tourist Highways and tying up all Motor License Fees and Gasoline Tax revenues to provide interest and sinking fund on such Bond issue.

Alberta Adopts Saskatchewan's Policy

It is worthy of note that the Alberta Government recently announced that its main effort would now be devoted to the secondary roads. A Calgary despatch dated November 3, 1928, states: "That the Provincial Government would probably undertake a more extensive programme of secondary road development was the statement made Thursday, by Hon. O. L. McPherson, Minister of Public Works. Reports from Macleod on Wednesday stated that Mr. McPherson had declared there, now that the final portion of the Edmonton-U.S. boundary trail had been completed, the Government proposed going ahead with a similar highway running east to west. 'That is not what I meant,' said the minister yesterday. 'What I did say was that we hoped in future to devote more attention to roads such as that between Lethbridge and Cardston, that is, secondary highways forming connecting links between different communities and centres. The completion of the Edmonton-U.S. boundary road has no bearing on our secondary road programme. Whether that road had been completed or not, the time has come to devote more attention to the secondary roads.'"

BRIDGES

In all road construction one of the important and expensive items is the provision of bridges. Even over comparatively small streams these must be provided of sufficient strength to withstand the rush of ice and swollen waters in the spring of the year.

During the last five years the Department has built and repaired bridges as follows:

	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29
Pile bridges	75	83	101	77	131
Frame bent bridges	57	71	8	11	1
Bridges with concrete abutment	3	..	..	2	1
Reinforced concrete bridges	9	9	12	3	10
Steel truss bridges	8	9	6	7	4
Timber bridges repaired	24	39	22	..	46
Steel span repaired	18	27	16	5	20
Steel bridges painted	64	5	7	..	17

In addition to the above arrangements are made with the railways for foot passenger and vehicular traffic attachments to all new steel bridges erected over large rivers, as, for example, the Dunblane bridge, St. Louis bridge, Nipawin bridge, the Provincial Government paying the extra cost thus incurred.

FERRIES

All ferries in Saskatchewan are provided by the Highways Department without cost to the Municipalities and are operated by the Department without charge to the people making use of them. They are as free to traffic as the roads themselves between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. every day, Sundays included. A small fee is charged by the ferrymen during the night hours.

Ferries operated during 1928-29 numbered 47, and the cost of maintenance and operation for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1929, was \$146,520.20.

What is the Conservative Policy?

Roundly condemning the Government's highway policy one day, Dr. Anderson the next day is reported as declaring that Premier Gardiner has stolen the Conservative policy.

As contrasted with the Governments' policy, what is the Conservative policy?

In an interview in his newspaper organ, the "Regina Daily Star" of August 18, 1928, Dr. Anderson is reported saying:

"My policy has always been that we want **A FINE PAVED AND PERMANENT HIGHWAY** from the United States border to Prince Albert, and two similar transversal highways, one to the north and the other to this section."

In a second interview appearing in the "Regina Daily Star" four days later Dr. Anderson amplified this statement, saying:

"We should have permanent all-weather roads as I have outlined with gravel feeder roads built throughout the Province. These roads must be largely constructed as a matter of capital expenditure, so that those who come after us will assist in paying for our roads.

"Let the Province borrow, say, \$20,000,000, to be paid back over a period of 30 years and let the interest charges and the establishment of a sinking fund to cover principal payments, be provided by the gasoline tax and motor licenses."

A month later Dr. Anderson reduced the 30-year period for repayment of his proposed \$20,000,000 bond issue to 25 years.

An Impracticable Policy

Mr. Howard McConnell, Dr. Anderson's colleague from Saskatoon, advocates only a \$10,000,000 bond issue. But taking Dr. Anderson's larger amount as indicating the Conservative policy, and the low estimate of \$35,000 per mile for a paved highway, it will be found that \$20,000,000 would fall short of completing one north and south and one east and west highway. Nor have paved highways yet been constructed which will outlast the 30-year, or even the 25-year period, for which the Conservatives would issue debentures. And if the gasoline tax and motor license fees are tied up to pay interest and provide a sinking fund for redemption of this \$20,000,000 flotation, where is the money coming from to provide the thousands of miles of gravelled roads which he declares must be built as feeders to the paved highways?

One of the planks in the Conservative platform piously declares for economy in capital expenditures, yet the present gross debt of Saskatchewan incurred in 23 years for all purposes could be doubled, and Dr. Anderson's outlined programme would still be far from completed.

A Sharp Contrast in Policies

It will be seen therefore, that the Conservative policy bears no relation whatever to the past and present policy of the Gardiner Government. The Tory policy is one of huge borrowings to provide paved tourist highways running north and south and east and west across the province. The aim of the Gardiner Government is, first of all, to provide the people of Saskatchewan, and primarily its large army of farmer producers, with good roads leading to all the market towns of the Province, improving the worst sections first, then the third best, then the second best, until finally all are good, and to proceed with the gravelling of the main highways just as rapidly as possible after they have been constructed to standard.

Premier Gardiner's announced policy of expending approximately \$5,000,000 in standard construction and gravelling this year, and to expend \$20,000,000 within four years, and to accomplish this without borrowing more than \$5,000,000, is a further development of the policy which has been pursued in the past.

The Liberal policy is one of improvement over the whole system, thereby directly benefiting a large percentage of the people of the Province, and without a crushing burden of debt, whereas the Tory policy is to complete one paved highway across the Province from east to west and about one-half of a similar paved highway from north to south, which would directly benefit but a small proportion of the people of Saskatchewan.

Anderson's Criticism of Municipalities

Dr. Anderson indulges in very strong language in his denunciation of the roads of Saskatchewan and the policy of the Government in regard thereto. He has exhausted the dictionary of adjectives to find words to use to voice his criticism, finally concluding with the declaration that Saskatchewan's roads are the worst, the rottenest, to be found in any civilized country in the world.

This sweeping criticism is directed not only against the Gardiner Government but equally against every Reeve and Municipal Councillor in the Province.

In view of the fact that the Government is directly responsible for only that portion of the ultimate Provincial Highways system which has been constructed to standard—that is, something less than 4,000 miles at the present time—whereas the municipalities are responsible for the 25,000 miles of Main Market Roads and the entire system of Local Roads, it will be seen that Dr. Anderson's uncalled-for reflections on Saskatchewan as a whole constitute a wholesale condemnation of our entire municipal organization and administration.

Non-Partizan Opinions vs. Anderson

However, Dr. Anderson is not the only man who uses the roads. There are others who regard them from the standpoint of their utility rather than through the "bleu" glasses of a political partizan. Scores, even hundreds, of opinions contrary to those expressed by Dr. Anderson might be quoted. Two or three will suffice to illustrate.

Miss E. Cora Hind, Agricultural and Commercial Editor of the "Manitoba Free Press," makes an annual crop inspection tour of the three prairie provinces. She does not confine her travels to the main highways, but covers thousands of miles in all directions. The following is an extract from one of her despatches last summer: "North Battleford Sask., August 24—Loverna to Kerrobert. My last report was from Sibbald and concluded the Alberta inspection. It was good to get back into Saskatchewan with its larger percentage of graded roads and well-marked trails and highways. Alberta clings to the color marking system and a good many of the markings suggested color blindness on the part of the one who marked them. Northern Alberta is very hilly and a bad bump at the bottom of each hill is the order of the day."

W. F. Marshall, Provincial Red Cross Commissioner for Saskatchewan, is another person who uses the roads extensively. Last summer he took a vacation to the south of the international boundary. In a one-minute interview with a Regina newspaper on his return he said: "It was a joy to get back on the hard dirt roads of Saskatchewan after motoring through Montana. After some of the roads I have seen in other places I consider ours are a credit to a Province as young as Saskatchewan. Certainly nothing finer could be desired than the wide dirt roads from Cadillac to Regina."

A news item announcing the return of Dr. C. E. Tran, Progressive leader, from a trip to Seattle to his home town of Kamsack, appeared in the "Kamsack Times," September 13, 1928. This reads, in part, as follows:

"After spending five days in Seattle, he commenced the return journey, going through Spokane, Kingsgate, National Park, Calgary, Medicine Hat, Moose Jaw and Regina. The doctor took only four days from Seattle to Regina. From Swift Current to Canora he drove on through roads through plenty of rain." The news item further reports the doctor as saying that threshing was practically completed in Alberta, and that, in comparison, "there was little threshing done in Saskatchewan where general rains this week have impeded all threshing operations." A clear picture of weather conditions, notwithstanding which Dr. Tran made exceptionally good time.

Thus does unbiased opinion flatly contradict Dr. Anderson.

Opposition Campaign Hurts Saskatchewan

Not only are the Tory campaign assertions relative to the roads at variance with the facts, but they are a libel and slander on Saskatchewan and doing incalculable harm to the Province. In the Regina Board of Trade News for September, 1928, C. B. McKee, chairman of the Highways and Tourists Committee, and later president of the Board, felt impelled to address a word of warning and advice to those people engaged in "knocking" the highways of the Province. The following are but excerpts from his message:

"It is altogether too bad that so many of our own citizens should emphasize the alleged unsatisfactory condition of Saskatchewan's highways Admitting that the highways of the Province are not, at the present moment, all they might be, cognizance should be taken of the fact that the Department of Highways has a tremendous problem on hand, which it is doing its best to solve. The Province is of vast extent and sparse population. The Government's programme entails the ultimate construction of thousands of miles of highway at the cost of many millions of dollars, a very large proportion of the construction being through territory where the natural soil conditions have made road construction and maintenance extremely difficult and costly Anyone who has formed part of a delegation to wait on the Minister of Highways in regard to road construction realizes the extent of his task, and the impossibility, under present conditions of population and financial strength, of meeting every demand for good roads If those of our citizens who unthinkingly condemn our Provincial roads will stop to consider the magnitude of the problem there will be less criticism. We are still a young Province, and all things considered, have made good progress with our roads in the face of many handicaps Let us remember that press reports in our local papers are seized upon hungrily by enthusiastic boosters for other parts of Canada, to our detriment. **MORE TOURISTS HAVE BEEN KEPT OUT OF SASKATCHEWAN AS THE RESULT OF ADVERSE ROAD COMMENT BY OUR OWN CITIZENS THAN THROUGH ANY OTHER CAUSE.**"

Department of Agriculture

"I think the farmers of Saskatchewan should be proud to have back of them such an organisation as the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture."

So said Mr. J. E. Armishaw, farmer and organizer of the United Farmer movement in British Columbia, in an interview published in the "Regina Daily Post" of Oct. 20, 1928.

Continuing, Mr. Armishaw said: "After careful study and investigation into the work and results of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, I am of opinion that this Province leads the Dominion in the efficiency and aggressiveness of their efforts to solve the problems of the Saskatchewan farmer."

Study of the work and the results will confirm the opinion and endorse the judgment of this independent "outside" investigator. The record of achievement proves conclusively that the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, inspired by Liberal Governments from its inception, has consistently bent its efforts to promoting the interests of the farming community and of fostering the agricultural industry upon which the prosperity and welfare of the province is dependent.

In short, the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture under Liberal Government, has been guide, philosopher and friend to the farmers of the province.

The great farmers' movements and organizations in Saskatchewan appreciate the fact. Farmers themselves are not critical of the Department or its administration. It remained for Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, leader of the Conservative Party, to launch forth into baseless criticism with characteristic and vociferous lack of forethought. The Department, he averred, had shown no initiative in grappling with farmers' problems. The following summary of the work and achievements of the Department of Agriculture reveals abundant evidence to show that, throughout its history, the Department has displayed greater initiative than any similar Department in any province of Canada.

The record shows that in this, as in other Departments, the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan frequently has been in advance of, always abreast of, and never behind, the times.

Efforts of the Government to improve the lot of the farmer in the province and to place the agricultural industry on the soundest possible basis, have been remedial, promotional and administrative. In all three divisions the record stands as permanent testimonial to the signal worth of the service and the solid nature of the achievement.

The measure of the success of Liberal Governments in meeting and anticipating the needs of Saskatchewan farmers, is the pre-eminence attained by Saskatchewan farm products and live stock on world markets and in the international show ring.

Illustrative of the effective remedial measures it has adopted and initiated in the past to meet emergent needs was the campaign to combat the grasshopper plague in the years immediately following the war.

Through the Field Crops Branch of the Department of Agriculture all available forces were mobilised to retrieve a serious situation. The plague, its effects in the infested area, the campaign inaugurated by the Department and sustained in co-operation with the municipalities concerned, now are matters of history. Complete success crowned the efforts.

Not only has the Government directed its attention to the advancement and stabilization of agriculture as an industry, but it has also lent a sympathetic ear to cases of individual hardship in the farming community. Through the Debt Adjustment Bureau many farmers in the Province have been helped through periods of severe financial stress, the Bureau acting as a "buffer" between the debtor farmer and his creditors—to the complete satisfaction of both classes, debtors and creditors. Through the Farm Loans Board, the Government has assisted with loans at reasonable interest rates, the effect of which has been a general modification of the interest rate on farm mortgages throughout the Province. More is said of this exemplary service in a later chapter. Suffice it that, in all its activities, the Government, through the Department, has maintained constant watch and ward over the interests of the farming community and has exercised constant vigilance over the industry upon which the wellbeing of the province and its people depends.

The promotional and administrative services of the Government through the Department of Agriculture may be summarized in the following generalized terms: Promotion of scientific farming, encouraging development of high grade live stock, improving the quality of field crops, combatting noxious weeds and insect pests, controlling live stock and poultry diseases, opening new markets for Saskatchewan's exportable surplus, assisting co-operative enterprise in all its forms for the benefit of the industry. In all directions, initiative of the highest order has been shown.

THE LIVE STOCK BRANCH

The Live Stock Branch of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture has shown the way to the rest of Canada in its efforts to raise the standard of quality of the cattle, horses, sheep and swine of the Province.

The Branch has not been content to follow other leads. Inspired by a sympathetic and alert Government, it has initiated aggressive policies which other provinces have been quick to adopt.

Maintaining close co-operation with the farmers of the province, either directly or through the agency of the various farmers' organizations, the Branch has stimulated a widespread demand for better live stock and has taken effectual steps to meet that demand.

Through this Branch, the Government has helped the farmers to help themselves.

Activities of the Branch may be summarized as follows:

COMBATTING DISEASE: Immunising vaccines for prevention of such diseases as blackleg are supplied, at cost, to farmers and veterinarians throughout the province, more than 11,000 doses being issued during the fiscal year 1927-28.

ERADICATION OF BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS: Though this is essentially a Federal movement, the initiative lies with the Provincial Government and upon it also falls the duty of broadcasting the educative propaganda

The fifth restricted area for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis to be established in Canada consists of the six municipalities on the east side of Last Mountain Lake. Tests of the cattle in this area made by inspectors of the Dominion Health of Animals Branch, the Provincial Veterinarian co-operating, bore conclusive testimony to the fact that the cattle were very healthy.

21,871 head of cattle were tested, and only .8 per cent. reacted—a remarkably low percentage.

File Hills Indian Reserve cattle were tested during 1928, and it is hoped that the present restricted area will be extended along the north side of the Qu'Appelle Valley, this year.

THE SASKATCHEWAN GOVERNMENT WILL NOT BE CONTENT UNTIL THE WHOLE PROVINCE IS DECLARED A RESTRICTED AREA FOR THE ERADICATION OF BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS.

The better live stock campaign initiated by the Provincial Government has been pursued indefatigably since the inception of the Branch.

LIVE STOCK PURCHASE AND SALE: An Act providing for the purchase and sale of live stock to farmers of Saskatchewan on credit terms was passed by the Legislature in 1913. This measure enabled farmers to get away from the hazards of straight grain farming and to obtain good stock at small initial outlay.

To date, 5,500 farmers have availed themselves of this service and have purchased live stock under this scheme.

Under this scheme, the Live Stock Branch has handled more than 2,000 pure bred bulls; 9,500 head of female cattle; 674 pure bred rams; more than 20,000 grade ewes; 335 pure bred boars; 402 pure bred sows and 1,700 grade sows. That is

A TOTAL OF 35,000 HEAD OF LIVE STOCK OF HIGH QUALITY HAS BEEN SOLD TO FARMERS OF SASKATCHEWAN UNDER THIS SCHEME.

The maximum amount of money "out" at any time since this Act came into force in 1913, was \$1,500,000.

\$75,000 was expended on this service last year (1928), and the same amount has been made available for 1929.

SASKATCHEWAN WAS THE FIRST PROVINCE OF CANADA TO INAUGURATE THIS SCHEME AND THE ONLY PROVINCE OF CANADA TO MAINTAIN IT IN UNBROKEN OPERATION SINCE ITS INCEPTION.

PURE BRED STALLION DISTRICTS: Saskatchewan is the leading horse-breeding Province of the Dominion and much of its pre-eminence both in quality and numbers, is attributable to The Horse Breeders' Act under which Pure Bred Stallion Districts may be established.

The purpose of this Act is to encourage the highest standard of horse breeding throughout the country. Inspectors are appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, whose duty it is to examine, report upon and recommend the grading of all stallions enrolled for public service.

Under this Act, 11,300 stallions and jacks have been examined since 1912.

Most of the Province is now included in the Pure Bred Stallion District, 17 municipalities being added and gazetted in January, 1929. In all, there are 259 municipalities where only pure bred stallions may travel, and 42 municipalities outside the District, where grade stallions are allowed to travel.

There are only 23 grade stallions licensed in these 42 municipalities.

SASKATCHEWAN WAS ONE OF THE FIRST PROVINCES TO REGISTER AND LICENSE STALLIONS.

BETTER LIVE STOCK TRAINS: Various methods of propagandism have been employed in the efforts of departmental officials to improve Saskatchewan live stock, and to make a supply of high quality stock available for the farmers of the Province. Between the years 1921 and 1926, five Better Live Stock Trains were operated in Saskatchewan, the entire Province being covered in the period.

Pure bred sires were sold from the trains and lectures given. More than 40,000 persons visited these trains in one season.

THE TRAIN WHICH RAN IN 1921, WAS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN CANADA.

SHEEP AND BACON HOG CARS: In the effort to encourage development of a bacon type of hog, Bacon Hog Cars were first operated in 1925, in order to get in touch with the producers and to place good breeding stock within their reach. Sheep cars were added to the train in 1926.

These were the first cars of their kind operated in any Province of Canada.

During the 1928 season, the trains visited 32 stations in the Province; 600 head of sheep and bacon hogs were sold and 5,110 persons visited the cars, listened to the lectures and witnessed the demonstrations.

BACON HOGS SOLD FROM STOCK YARDS: This scheme was devised to save from the slaughter good type select bacon sows and to turn them back to the farms for stock raising purposes. This work is carried on at Moose Jaw, Saskatoon and Prince Albert.

SASKATCHEWAN IS THE ONLY PROVINCE IN CANADA IN WHICH THIS SCHEME IS OPERATED.

SASKATCHEWAN WAS THE FIRST PROVINCE IN WESTERN CANADA TO ADOPT A SYSTEM OF GRADING RAMS.

SASKATCHEWAN WAS THE FIRST PROVINCE IN CANADA TO ADOPT A SYSTEM OF GRADING BOARS.

PURE BRED SIRE AREAS: The Act providing for the establishment of Pure Bred Sire Areas within which the use of grade or scrub sires is prohibited, was, at the time of its enactment **THE MOST ADVANCED LEGISLATION OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF IRELAND.** Since its enactment, the Act has been copied by Manitoba and Alberta.

Under this Act, six municipalities already have been constituted as Pure Bred Sire Areas; eight more have been gazetted; three more are practically ready and 13 municipalities are on the waiting list ready for survey.

That is, 30 municipalities have expressed their desire, by petition and resolution, to be established as Pure Bred Sire Areas.

More than 1,500 scrub bulls have been cleared from the six areas now established.

Departmental officials estimate that elimination of scrub bulls, scrub stallions, scrub boars and scrub rams will mean a gain of many millions of dollars to the farmers of the Province.

The scheme has been received enthusiastically by stock raisers of the Province, and the widespread interest being taken is adequate proof that farmers appreciate the importance and recognise the value of the movement as a means of improving the live stock of the Province.

SASKATCHEWAN INITIATED THIS SCHEME. OTHERS FOLLOWED. The evidence accumulates the more the activities of the Branch are studied, to show that enterprise and initiative have been brought to bear by the Government upon the problem of improving the live stock of the Province.

Much has been done toward this end, as the foregoing proves.

More is contemplated.

Several years ago, very beneficial results accrued from the importation of sheep, swine and horses into the Province. The evidence is apparent in local, national and international showings.

THE GOVERNMENT NOW HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION THE IMPORTATION OF DUAL-PURPOSE SHORTHORN COWS WHICH ARE VERY POPULAR IN BRITAIN AND WHICH, IT IS BELIEVED, WOULD FILL A USEFUL PLACE IN THIS PROVINCE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

Saskatchewan live stock exhibits, on which the Government has expended \$5,000 annually, have won 1,200 championships and prizes in eight years.

In 1928, the three grand champion stallions of the three heavy draft breeds at The Royal, Toronto, were all Saskatchewan owned.

OTHER ACTIVITIES: The Live Stock Branch administers The Horse Breeders' Act, The Stray Animals Act, The Stock Inspection Act, The Wolf Bounty Act, The Sheep Protection and Dog Licensing Act, etc.

Its promotional work includes lectures, demonstrations, motion picture displays, and any other means by which the educational campaigns of the Branch can be made most effective.

The Branch co-operates with the Live Stock Associations and the University of Saskatchewan in promoting the Farm Boys' Camp movement. A judging competition is staged annually in connection with the Association Convention. The interest these competitions is creating is evidenced by the fact that the competition held last year was the largest ever staged in Western Canada.

The Government has made provision for assisting and encouraging those communities conducting a Farm Boys' Camp.

UNDER LIBERAL GOVERNMENT, SASKATCHEWAN LEADS,
OTHER PROVINCES FOLLOW.

THE DAIRY BRANCH

Activities of the Dairy Branch of the Department of Agriculture are above criticism.

Through it, consistent and persistent efforts have been made to increase production, to maintain and improve quality production.

To this end, all possible assistance and encouragement has been given producers and manufacturers.

The closest co-operation exists between producers and manufacturers on the one hand, and the Branch on the other.

Problems of both producer and manufacturer have engaged the undivided attention of the Dairy Branch and, by co-operation, these problems gradually are being solved.

Both producers and manufacturers, by word and action endorse, commend and appreciate the service rendered, through this Branch, by the Saskatchewan Government.

Through these concerted efforts, the dairy industry has blossomed into a major industry, very substantial growth being recorded from year to year.

In 1906, 132,446 pounds of creamery butter were produced in the Province. In 1927, approximately 12,000,000 pounds were produced while dairy production was valued at \$19,000 000. Production in 1928, though a fraction lower than in 1927, was valued at \$20,000,000, prevailing prices being slightly higher.

Two methods are being pursued by the Department of Agriculture to increase production in dairy products. The first is herd improvement, the second, better marketing methods.

HERD IMPROVEMENT: The Dairy Branch has concentrated on this feature in recent years, the value of the work done being shown in the greatly enhanced production of the herds under test.

Cow testing and herd record work were taken over by The Dairy Branch from the Dominion Dairy Branch in 1921.

The mere keeping of records of production does not increase the yield of a cow, but intelligent study of the records followed by careful breeding and selection as well as good feeding and care, will practically double milk and butterfat production on the average farm, which means that the net profits will be much more than doubled.

Two field men devote all their time to herd improvement work.

In addition to that, dairy producers of the Moose Jaw district formed, in 1927, the Moose Jaw Herd Improvement Association for the better promotion of cow testing and herd improvement work in that district. An official dairy recorder is employed by the Dairy Branch in that particular district who devotes his full time to the work of the Association, the cost of the service being shared between the Government and the herd owners concerned. Results are proving highly satisfactory.

SASKATCHEWAN AND BRITISH COLUMBIA ARE THE ONLY PROVINCES IN CANADA GIVING THIS SERVICE.

CREAM GRADING SERVICE: A Government Cream Grading Service was instituted, at the request of dairy interests of the Province, in May, 1923. Under this system resident graders were located in all the larger creameries, and a staff of inspectors also was employed to supervise the work. Marked improvement was noted. A further advance step was taken and a new system was evolved, in 1927, whereby the province was divided into nine districts, and trained dairy instructors, all experts in the work, were each assigned a district there to handle quality improvement work and to assist producers with their problems. In addition, the Branch employs a manufacturing expert to advise and aid the manufacturer experiencing difficulty in maintaining quality. Producers and Manufacturers alike are enthusiastic over the results.

SASKATCHEWAN IS THE FIRST PROVINCE (INDEED THE ONLY PROVINCE) OF CANADA TO ADOPT A SYSTEM OF DISTRICT DAIRY INSTRUCTORS.

BUTTER GRADING was taken over by the Federal Department, July 1, 1926, under which the Federal Government assumes responsibility of looking after markets, the Provincial Department confining its efforts to production. Butter grading, it was agreed, fell within the former category.

MOULD AND YEAST: This factor, one of the big questions confronting the dairy industry in the province, led the Dairy Branch to establish last year (1928) a dairy laboratory in which mould and yeast counts are made on every churn of creamery butter manufactured in Saskatchewan. So much appreciated has this service been, that manufacturers now are asking the Branch to include a salt test in every churn as well.

SASKATCHEWAN LED ALL PROVINCES IN NUMBER OF COUNTS MADE DURING 1928 AND EASILY LED IN RESULTS, 45.9% being classified as "excellent."

SASKATCHEWAN IS THE ONLY PROVINCE IN CANADA GIVING A WEIGHT CHECKING SERVICE ON CREAMERY BUTTER, AND OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATES OF WEIGHT.

The Branch maintains a highly effective educational service, and issues two publications monthly, one in the interests of producers, the other in the interests of manufacturers.

CANARY KORNDYKE ALCARTRA, the world's record butterfat producer, owned by Ben Thomson, of Boharm, which in 305 days during 1928, produced 1,079.74 pounds of butterfat, thus becoming world's champion, was

purchased by the Government for \$10,000 after Mr. Thomson had received even more tempting offers from United States interests. The Government's action was taken in order to keep this wonderful animal in the Province and to PRESERVE FOR SASKATCHEWAN HER PROGENY,—a feature completely ignored or discounted by the Conservative leader. During the last five months and since she came into possession of the Government, Canary Korndyke Alcartra has shown further evidence of her productivity—without being pushed after a record.

THESE ACTIVITIES SHOW THAT THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN HAS THE INTERESTS OF THE PRIMARY PRODUCERS CONTINUALLY IN MIND.

THE FIELD CROPS BRANCH

Field crops are the chief agricultural product of the province, and the chief source of Saskatchewan's wealth.

Saskatchewan leads in quantity production of wheat.

The objective of the Branch is to maintain high quality production.

The work of the Field Crops Branch is carried on under two main divisions:

(1) Protection of crops; (2) Improvement of crops.

Crop Protection

Activities under this heading fall within the following categories: Weed control; educational work; investigation and control of insect infestations; investigation of crop diseases.

The Field Crops Branch in its administration of The Noxious Weeds Act, establishes a close measure of co-operation with municipalities, local weed inspectors, farmers and others.

All forces are being mobilized in the fight against noxious weeds.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES: In 1928, the Province was divided into 12 districts and a representative of the Field Crops Branch stationed in each to assist municipal councils and weed inspectors with suggestions and information. Through this agency, a greater measure of co-operation has been established. The district representatives address public meetings on weed control, visit schools to give talks on the subject, assist the Extension Department of the University and the Wheat Pool in its Co-operative Schools.

SHORT COURSES FOR WEED INSPECTORS: These courses are given every winter, at Regina and Saskatoon, to train local inspectors and make them more proficient in their work. The value of these courses is evidenced by the fact that whereas 61 attended the first courses in 1925, 114 attended in 1929, the total attendance at all courses being 422.

EDUCATIONAL TRAINS: In 1921, the Field Crops Branch co-operated with Manitoba and Alberta in the operation of an Interprovincial Weed Train. Tillage and seed cleaning machinery were carried, and lectures given on weed control.

In 1925, 1926 and 1927, five Forage Crop Trains were operated for the purpose of stressing the value of these crops, their efficacy in controlling weeds and soil drift. Clean seed of the forage crops was carried and sold to farmers.

In 1928, two trains combining the Forage Crop and Seed Cleaning Machinery ideas were operated. In 1929, a Seed Cleaning Machinery train was operated, which carried two cars of machinery for demonstration purposes. This train visited 39 points, 3,568 persons attending the lectures and demonstrations given.

The Seed Cleaning Machinery cars were operated as result of the conditions revealed by SEED DRILL SURVEYS as to the purity and cleanliness of the seed being sown by Saskatchewan farmers.

BY WEED DISPLAYS at summer fairs, distribution of literature on the identification and control of weeds, display posters, illustrated lectures, and colored weed cards for schools, the propaganda of the Branch is carried into the homes in the farming community.

WEED CONFERENCE: At the instance of Hon. C. M. Hamilton, Minister of Agriculture, a conference was held in Regina in January of this year, to discuss the noxious weed problem. A suggestion emanated from that conference that local weed meetings be held throughout the country.

Following up that suggestion, 88 meetings were held during February and March, attended by 4,418 persons.

WEED CONTROL INVESTIGATIONS, including tillage, cropping and chemical methods, are carried on, particularly in respect of perennial sow thistle, poverty weed, wild oats and quack or couch grass, by special members of the staff.

INVESTIGATION OF INSECT OUTBREAKS which menace crops is conducted by the Branch, and control measures recommended where practicable. In some cases, notably the GRASSHOPPER PLAGUE, Province-wide campaigns have been instituted by the Branch.

INVESTIGATION OF DISEASES of Field Crops also is conducted and information given on tillage and cropping practices which will control the diseases.

SPECIFIC PROBLEMS are investigated and solutions sought. The Crown Lands around Quill Lakes have given considerable trouble as a source of infestation of perennial sow thistle. These lands have been leased by the Provincial Government from the Dominion Government and sub-leased to farmers for pasturing purposes in order to control this noxious weed on these lands.

Crop Improvement

The following activities are carried on by the Branch under this heading:

PROMOTING THE USE OF PURE AND CLEAN SEED by posters illustrating the value of improved and pure seed, showing districts of the Province where different varieties of wheat are recommended, and setting forth the value of seed testing before sowing.

The Branch has distributed registered seed at different times, and Agricultural Societies have been assisted financially in obtaining supplies for their districts.

SASKATCHEWAN REGISTERED SEED GROWERS' LIMITED, popularly known as the "SEED POOL" was a direct result of the efforts of the Branch to promote the use of better seed. The Branch was the foster parent of the organisation until it was strong enough to carry on by itself. The Field Crops Commissioner, while still a Government servant, piloted the organisation during its infant years, its headquarters being in the Field Crops Branch. THIS WAS THE FIRST ORGANISATION OF ITS KIND TO REACH A CONDITION WHERE IT COULD FUNCTION WITHOUT GOVERNMENTAL ASSISTANCE.

THE PROVINCIAL SEED BOARD is in receipt of financial assistance from the Government and the Field Crops Commissioner is secretary of the Board whose function it is to make recommendations regarding licensing and registering new varieties, seed standards and seed legislation. The Branch also promotes the activities of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association within the Province.

FERTILIZER EXPERIMENTS are carried out with the co-operation of farmers. At present, the value of superphosphate is being determined by extensive tests in many districts.

The Branch undertakes the judging of field crops and clean farm competitions staged by Boards of Trade, Service Clubs, and Agricultural Societies.

The Government, through the Branch, grants assistance to Saskatchewan exhibitors at The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Toronto, and the International Grain and Hay Show, Chicago, shipping their EXHIBITS FREE AND GIVING EXTRA PREMIUMS TO THOSE WINNING HIGH AWARDS.

NO EFFORT IS BEING SPARED BY THE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THIS BRANCH, TO MAKE SASKATCHEWAN FIRST IN QUALITY AS IT IS FIRST IN QUANTITY PRODUCTION.

Two Important Developments

Following representations of a delegation headed by Hon. C. M. Hamilton, Minister of Agriculture, and including Hon. George Spence, Minister of Railways, Labour and Industries, J. C. Mitchell, Dahinda, and M. P. Tullis, of the Saskatchewan Registered Seed Growers' Association, the Dominion Government has agreed to erect and equip a fully modern seed cleaning plant at Moose Jaw at a cost of \$150,000.

At the same time, the Provincial Government jointly with the Dominion Government, has undertaken to finance the establishment of small seed cleaning plants under auspices of municipalities or agricultural societies throughout the province, to the extent of \$1,500 per unit.

SASKATCHEWAN SOIL SURVEYS

Soil surveys were undertaken in Saskatchewan following the Better Farming Conference called by the Minister of Agriculture and held at Swift Current, July, 1920.

Three main recommendations emanated from that Conference: (1) That a soil survey be made to determine the land fit for cultivation; (2) that more

experimental work be undertaken as a guide in methods of cultivation and suitability of crops and (3) that pasture lands be made available for the settlers.

All three recommendations have been carried into effect by Liberal Governments of Saskatchewan.

The soil survey work was assigned by the Government to the Department of Soils, University of Saskatchewan, and already reports covering a large portion of the Province have been issued in book form.

It is interesting, almost amusing to note, that the Conservative Government of Ontario, held up by Tory sycophants in Saskatchewan as the model of what Government should be, is embarking upon a soil survey nine years after Saskatchewan.

Following his return from a trip overseas, last summer (1928), Hon. Howard Ferguson, Premier of Ontario, announced his decision to institute a soil survey. The announcement was acclaimed by the Ontario press. Said the "Globe" (Toronto):

"One of the first and undoubtedly farthest-reaching effects of Premier Ferguson's visit overseas will be his launching of a soil survey in Ontario."

The "Farmers' Sun" (Ontario), commenting editorially on the announcement in the issue of Aug. 23, 1928, had this to say:

"Mr. Ferguson, returning from Europe, brings as a gift the promise of a soil survey . . . The gift is not to be made light of."

The "Globe" dispatch intimated that Premier Ferguson got his idea in Holland.

HE NEED HAVE GONE NO FURTHER THAN SASKATCHEWAN FOR LEADERSHIP.

With reference to the third recommendation, and in addition to the Community Pastures operated by five Grazing Associations in the south-western portion of the Province, the Government is operating as a government pasture what is known as the Matador Ranch.

The success of the Matador as a government pasture is exceeding all expectations.

No other government, in Canada or elsewhere, is operating a ranch of the extent of the Matador and with such success.

CO-OPERATION AND MARKETS BRANCH

The pre-eminence of Saskatchewan in the field of co-operative enterprise is due largely to the sympathetic encouragement and ready support accorded by Liberal Governments in this Province to such enterprise on the part of the producers, since co-operation as a solvent of farmers' marketing problems first attracted public attention

CO-OPERATION WITH THE FARMERS IN THE MARKETING OF FARM PRODUCE HAS BEEN THE ESTABLISHED POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR MANY YEARS.

The policy of Liberal Government in Saskatchewan has been to assist both financially and otherwise with the work of organising co-operative enterprises of this nature, continuing that support until such time as the organisations have proved their ability to function alone.

Under this policy, the largest farmer-owned co-operative marketing organisations in the world have been developed in Saskatchewan.

Conservatives (notably Dr. J. T. M. Anderson) have not hesitated to make this policy the subject of their characteristic virulent, sweeping, unfounded allegations. They have thundered from many platforms that Liberal Government in Saskatchewan has done nothing to assist the organisation of large co-operative enterprise in this Province—the Wheat Pool, particularly.

These allegations, these criticisms analysed in the light of the history of the co-operative movement in Saskatchewan, are reduced to absurdity.

Miss Emma Griesbach, writing in the *Farmers' Sun* (Ontario), November 17, 1927, on "What is Government doing for the Farmer and what is the Farmer doing for Himself?" has this to say on the subject of Co-operative Marketing:

"You have, of course, all received your own impressions and formed your own conclusions; but so far as quick and full response on the part of the Government to the will and wish of the best element among the agriculturists is concerned, it seems to me that Saskatchewan carries off the palm."

The Co-operation and Markets Branch of the Department of Agriculture was organized in 1913, and was THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

For fourteen years its services have been at the disposal of all farm organizations and also unorganised farmers for the promotion of co-operative marketing of farm produce and the registration of co-operative trading associations, community halls, community grazing associations, beef rings, etc.

RECORDS IN THE POSSESSION OF THE BRANCH INCLUDE THE EARLIER PUBLICITY MATERIAL AND POSTERS PREPARED FOR THE WHEAT POOL, THE LIVE STOCK POOL, etc., AND USED DURING THE ORGANIZATION CAMPAIGNS.

The assistance accorded by the Government directly, or through this Branch to co-operative organisations, is set forth in greater detail under the specific headings.

The Branch administers The Co-operative Associations Act, The Co-operative Marketing Associations Act, The Produce Merchants Act. The last mentioned Act provides for the bonding of produce merchants for the protection of the producer.

The Branch endeavors to protect the interests of Saskatchewan farmers by: (1) Keeping in close touch with regulations affecting standardization and grading of farm produce; (2) securing representation at conferences affecting the same; (3) familiarizing the producer with the requirements under the regulations; (4) conducting investigations in the field of marketing of farm produce at home and abroad.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE MARKETING INVESTIGATIONS THE GOVERNMENT RECENTLY APPOINTED A MARKETING ECONOMIST TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE MARKETS COMMISSIONER IN THIS WORK.

The Branch has taken a prominent part in the marketing and improvement of potatoes, and has been instrumental in setting the poultry industry off to an auspicious start.

POULTRY IMPROVEMENT: The Branch inaugurated its flock culling service in 1919 with the idea of eliminating "boarders," or low egg producers, from the flocks. In 1927, this work was extended, a 10-year programme was outlined in which it was proposed to inspect and cull every farm flock in the Province, and five trained and qualified poultrymen were engaged to handle the work in co-operation with the officials of the Poultry Pool. Each year, approximately 800 flocks are inspected and culled in an average of 22 municipalities.

Turkey improvement work also is carried on with a view to raising the standard and size of Saskatchewan turkeys. Flocks are inspected and the legs of those birds which show the necessary qualifications and so selected for breeding purposes, are banded. Four hundred and twenty-five flocks have been inspected to date and a total of 2,114 birds legbanded. Already the results of this campaign are manifest in the widespread demand for Saskatchewan banded turkeys and the success achieved by Saskatchewan birds in poultry shows.

The Branch while continuing the flock-culling service and devoting attention to the marketing of Saskatchewan poultry, will work in conjunction with the Live Stock Branch in poultry promotion work. To this end, a Poultry Promoter for the Province recently was appointed by the Government who, attached to the Live Stock Branch, will devote all his time to this activity.

The Branch aids in securing markets for live stock and all farm produce. It carries out extensive educational work in connection with co-operative marketing by means of lectures and demonstrations, illustrated by motion picture films.

A Province-wide Poultry Conference was held at Saskatoon, last fall, which, summoned at the instance of Hon. C. M. Hamilton, Minister of Agriculture, made certain recommendations which the Government is implementing as occasion arises.

The Branch issues a weekly publication entitled "Co-operation and Marketing News."

IT MAINTAINS CLOSE RELATIONS AND CO-OPERATES WITH THE EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD IN PROMOTING THE USE OF EMPIRE PRODUCE WITHIN THE EMPIRE.

SASKATCHEWAN OVERSEAS LIVE STOCK MARKETING COMMISSION, financed by the Saskatchewan Agricultural Foundation which administers the fund created by the Province's share of the Canada Wheat Board surplus (1920), investigated conditions relative to the marketing of Saskatchewan live stock in the British Isles and the Continent of Europe, in

the early part of 1927. A voluminous report of great interest and importance to Saskatchewan producers was drafted which, tabled in the Legislature, ultimately was published in book form by the Government.

NOTHING IS BEING LEFT UNDONE TO ASSIST FARMERS OF SASKATCHEWAN TO MARKET THEIR PRODUCE AND TO FIND MARKETS FOR THE EXPORTABLE SURPLUS OF FARM PRODUCE.

GOVERNMENT AID TO CO-OPERATIVE ENTERPRISE

CO-OPERATIVE ELEVATOR COMPANY: First of the great co-operative marketing organizations formed in Saskatchewan was the Saskatchewan Co-operative Elevator Company. This was organized in 1911 by the farmers of the province with the backing and financial support of the Liberal Government of the day.

Strong pressure was brought to bear upon the Government at the time to embark upon a Government Elevator System as was done in Manitoba. Following an exhaustive enquiry into the whole question of grain marketing on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, however, the Government decided in favor of a co-operative system, and upon this basis the company was organized. Shares were sold to bona fide farmers in limited amount, the farmers being required to subscribe stock to the value of an elevator to be erected, pay \$15 cash for each \$100 share, the Provincial Government advancing the remaining \$85 per share.

The growth of the system and the success achieved by it stand as irrefutable endorsement of the Government's policy. At the time the total grain handling facilities of the company were taken over by Saskatchewan Pool Elevators Ltd., in 1926, the price fixed by arbitration for these assets was \$11,059,000.

These assets included a line of 451 country elevators, a terminal transfer house at Buffalo and three large terminals at Port Arthur, two of which were held on lease.

By comparison, the straight government-system adopted in Manitoba, proved a complete failure. The Manitoba Government has gone out of the elevator business; the elevators have been sold or otherwise disposed of (some as mere junk) at a total loss to the Province of Manitoba of \$698,000 out of a total investment of \$1,354,096 according to Premier Bracken's recent Budget Statement.

An amount of \$1,792,770 remains outstanding of the monies put up by the Saskatchewan Government, approximately \$4,000,000 of the monies borrowed in connection with the elevator system having been repaid.

WHEAT POOL: A complete rebuttal of the Conservative charge (which has been repeated by Dr. Anderson with senseless reiteration) that the Government was lukewarm in its attitude toward the Wheat Pool at the time of organization of that great co-operative enterprise, is furnished by the following facts:

During the period of organization, when it was "touch and go" with the Pool, the Liberal Government of the day came to the rescue of the struggling organizers and financed the final successful drive for the necessary 50% of wheat acreage.

A sum of \$45,000 (since repaid by the Pool) was advanced for the purpose and yeoman service was rendered the infant organization by members of the Government, who lent their support from many platforms throughout the Province in the interests of the pool.

Testimony to this effect is given in one of the earlier Hand Books issued by the Co-operative Wheat Producers, Limited.

Liberal Government helped put the Pool over.

SASKATCHEWAN CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERIES: The Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Ltd., a co-operative of producers, was established after the Dairy Branch of the Department of Agriculture had demonstrated the benefits of co-operation in the handling of dairy products through what were known as Government Creameries.

Too rapid expansion of the cold storage side of the business of the company led to its re-organization after thorough investigation of its affairs had been made by the Legislature. This re-organization took place in 1923, and later, to overcome uneconomic duplication and cut-throat competition, the company was amalgamated with Caulder's Creameries Ltd., under the title Saskatchewan Co-operative Creameries, Ltd., the Provincial Government being interested to the extent of \$1,250,000 in the new concern. This sum was made up as follows: \$650,000 being the amount of the indebtedness of the original "Co-op" to the Government, for which the Government held, as security, a first mortgage on the plant; \$600,000 being the original company's indebtedness to the bank, which was guaranteed by the Government, which guarantee the Government was required to make good.

As security for the \$1,250,000, the Government holds a first mortgage for \$900,000 on the amalgamated company's plant, and redeemable shares to the amount of \$350,000.

Since the amalgamation, a saving of more than \$400,000 a year has been effected in operating costs, enabling the company to pay the producers more for their product.

The present Government, by legislation passed at last session of the Legislature, waived its prior right to dividends from the company in favor of the producer shareholders of the original Co-operative Creameries.

Further, that legislation contained several features designed to facilitate conversion of the concern into a real producers' co-operative, when the time is ripe for the change.

LIVE STOCK POOL: The Government lent the Live Stock Producers a sum of \$25,000 to assist organisation at the most strenuous period of the campaign.

POULTRY POOL: A sum of \$4,000 was advanced to help in organisation.

STATISTICS BRANCH

More than 30,000 farmers in Saskatchewan contribute material for the compilation of statistics in co-operation with the Branch, in addition to 1,200 crop correspondents who report monthly as to yields, and 100 telegraphic correspondents who report on crop conditions from week to week.

The Branch does not issue crop estimates for publication, consequently the criticism levelled against the Department of Agriculture relative to the inimical effect of such estimates upon the return obtained by the farmers, is not justified nor applicable at all to the Provincial Department.

Results have proved that the system adopted by the Branch in the collection of statistical data is reasonably accurate. These data are forwarded to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, and also are published in complete detail in the annual report of the Provincial Department of Agriculture.

PROVINCIAL APIARIST

Though the Bee Industry is virtually in its infancy in this Province, the Government has instituted steps, by legislation, to control disease among the colonies.

A system of inspection has been inaugurated by the Provincial Apiarist and a trained expert is engaged in the work. The inspection of last year (1928), covering two-thirds of the Province revealed 42 colonies infected with American Foulbrood, the greater proportion of the diseased colonies being destroyed.

Since the System was instituted, the entire Province has been covered by the inspector.

Growth of the industry has been rapid. In 1927, there were 928 beekeepers in the Province; in 1928, 1,147. The number of colonies in the spring count of 1928, was 5,172; in the fall count, 1928, there were 7,086 colonies, an increase of 1,914. Production in 1928 totalled 422,302 pounds of honey valued at \$77,660.

DEBT ADJUSTMENT BUREAU

The Debt Adjustment Bureau was established in 1921 to afford a measure of protection to individual farmers experiencing financial difficulty.

The Bureau has proved a most valuable link between the debtor and creditor and, having won the confidence of both, is receiving hearty co-operation from both.

So much appreciated has the service been that, pursuant to a demand, the Government placed the Bureau on a permanent basis under a Commissioner, by enactment at last session of the Provincial Legislature. At the same time, definite steps were taken to make the agreement arranged by the Bureau between a debtor and creditor binding upon both classes. The Bureau also was given power to accept assignment of crop by a debtor in the interests of his creditors, and to distribute the proceeds amongst those creditors.

Following are the cases dealt with each year since its inception by the Bureau:

	New cases	Old cases	Total
1921-22.....	3,500	....	3,500
1922-23.....	2,000	2,623	4,623
1923-24.....	1,800	4,000	5,800
1924-25.....	2,040	5,750	7,790
1925-26.....	989	3,000	3,989
1926-27.....	449	2,000	2,449
1927-28.....	361	1,100	1,461

Value of Properties administered by Bureau:

1921-22.....	\$27,000,000.00
1922-23.....	16,000,000.00
1923-24.....	14,000,000.00
1924-25.....	15,737,100.00
1925-26.....	7,629,146.00
1926-27.....	10,267,126.00
1927-28..	12,000,000.00

The total sum received by the Bureau since its commencement and disbursed *pro rata* amongst creditor classes approximates \$860,000.00

During the fiscal year 1927-28, \$119,636.00 was received and distributed *pro rata* amongst creditors.

Service Appreciated

Indicative of the appreciation of debtors who have applied to the Bureau for assistance, is the following letter typical of many in the possession of the Commissioner:

A widow writes:

"I was left with three-quarters of a section of good land and debt to the extent of about \$17,000 and two children, both at school.

"With the help of the Bureau, I am today nearly on my feet financially, having been helped by the Commissioner in every way. The creditors were all satisfied and willing to take a share of the crops as they were harvested and threshed and not one of the many have ever got impatient and that in itself was a huge relief to me, for I could never have carried on alone. The load would have been beyond me completely.

"I know so many more farmers who are being helped in the same way, and who are seemingly coming through quite satisfactorily and, instead of being discouraged and out, we are all greatly encouraged by the Commissioner's visits of inspection, with his new ideas, his kindness and help in every possible way."

Further testimony of the veritable mercy of the service rendered is the following news item which appeared in the daily press, in October, 1928:

"A farm tragedy has been averted and an old couple made happy by the energetic assistance rendered by the Saskatchewan Debt Adjustment Bureau with the co-operation of mortgage companies.

"Carrying an impossible burden and faced with the loss of their original homestead and another quarter section after 22 years' residence in Saskatchewan, an old English couple are now at home rejoicing that through the intervention of the Debt Adjustment Bureau their home has been saved and their financial burden has been reduced by approximately \$4,000.

"About 22 years ago these people moved out from Regina with an ox team and proceeded around Last Mountain Lake in a northerly direction to take up a homestead. A neighbour who homesteaded at the

same time sold his quarter section to them some ten years ago. To secure enough money to make the initial payment on the second quarter section, they had to place a mortgage on their original homestead.

"For years the couple struggled along aided by their son, until May of this year. At that time they had paid \$3,745 under the original agreement calling for \$5,600 in half crop payments. They still owed \$4,750 and in addition had a mortgage of \$1,100 against the original homestead which was in arrears. The situation looked impossible to the old couple and their son. They could see no way out except to lose their farm home.

"In the forlorn hope that something might be done, the old couple called upon the Debt Adjustment Bureau to assist them in their difficulties. After securing full details of the case and studying it closely an official of the Debt Adjustment Bureau got into touch with the Winnipeg vendor of the land, who agreed to accept \$2,000 cash and wipe off the balance. To make this payment possible it was necessary for the bureau to secure a mortgage of \$3,800. It was found impossible to secure more than \$3,000 on mortgage. This left \$800 still to be raised and the bureau negotiated a loan for the old couple through a bank and secured a mortgage repayable in 30 years.

"All the necessary documents were signed recently and the old couple have been relieved of the major part of their worries."

AGRICULTURAL REPRESENTATIVES

An Act making provision for groups of municipalities to unite to form an Agricultural Representative District and to employ an Agricultural Representative, was passed at the 1928 session of the Provincial Legislature.

The system, which has proved highly beneficial in older communities, is an advanced step in connection with agriculture, and for the promotion of agricultural education much of the work of such representatives would be among the youths, training the boys and girls in the fundamentals of agriculture, getting them acquainted with the business and creating within them a real love for the soil.

A sum of \$25,000 was included in the estimates for 1928-29, for this work, but, despite the fact several municipalities were interested enough to take the initial steps, no district yet has been organised.

Aids To Promotional Activities

Promotional organizations of the farming community, connected with virtually every phase of agricultural activity, receive generous financial support from the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan through the Department of Agriculture. Below is given a list of the organizations and activities which receive, annually, tangible evidence of the Government's sympathy with their aims and objects. To this has been added, expenditures connected with administration of The Agricultural Aids Act, in which are included the amounts required to provide for the purchase and sale of live stock, the operation of the Matador Ranch, etc.

	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29
Sask. Agricultural Societies.....	\$109,161.83	\$107,355.06	\$133,279.34	\$126,144.99
*Sask. Horticultural Societies.....	.....	.....	.....	1,002.55
Agricultural Societies Association.....	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Horticultural Societies Association.....	.....	.....	.....	300.00
Western Canada Irrigation Association.....	200.00	200.00	.....	.....
Canadian Forestry Association.....	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Sask. Beekeepers' Association.....	100.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Sask. Winter Fair Board.....	10,000.00	10,000.00	.....	.....
—now—				
Sask. Live Stock Board.....	.....	.....	10,000.00	12,500.00
Sask. Live Stock Associations.....	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00
Live Stock Exhibits Outside Saskatchewan..	4,030.00	6,537.67	2,425.01	5,000.00
Destruction of Wolves...	1,503.50	1,681.00	416.50	2,775.00
Moose Jaw Feeder Show	1,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Western Canada Live Stock Union.....	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
Sask. Veterinary Association.....	200.00	200.00	200.00	300.00
Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association.....	.....	.....	35.00	.....
Sask Dairy Association..	500.00	500.00	2,000.00	500.00
Total.....	\$130,745.33	\$132,823.73	\$154,705.85	\$154,872.54
Agricultural Aids.....	69,406.62	57,543.83	78,232.96	75,000.00
				(Estimated)

Total.....	\$200,151.95	\$190,367.56	\$232,938.81	\$229,872.54
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*This grant was included in that to Agricultural Societies prior to 1928-29.

Municipal Affairs

THE Department of Municipal Affairs, created November 1, 1908, was the first department of its kind in Canada. Since that date a number of Provinces have followed Saskatchewan's example and created departments or a Bureau devoted entirely to municipal affairs.

The department exercises a general supervision over all municipalities in the Province, giving particular attention to towns, villages and rural municipalities; advises municipal officials and councils on the provisions of the different municipal Acts and the powers and duties of councils; issues and enforces regulations governing the methods of accounting, recording and auditing to be used in towns, villages and rural municipalities; prescribes the books and forms required for the proper carrying out of the said regulations and the provisions of the respective municipal Acts. The Department of Municipal Affairs is the authority to which are submitted suggestions as to improvements and amendments in municipal law and administration. Through inspectors appointed for the purpose, the department makes an annual inspection of the municipal offices of all towns, villages and rural municipalities, and renders assistance to municipal officers respecting the discharge of their duties. The local municipal officials of the Province have associations which meet annually for the discussion of matters relating to law and administration. These associations, through their respective executives, keep in close touch with the department and present any suggestions or recommendations which they may deem desirable. These suggestions and recommendations are given careful consideration in the department.

Rural portions of the Province which have not yet been organized into Rural Municipalities are included in Local Improvement Districts, which are administered by the Department of Municipal Affairs. The Department collects the taxes, keeping separate accounts for each District, and the revenues thus derived are expended in meeting the cost of roads, bridges, and other improvements within the District contributing such revenues.

THE ASSESSMENT COMMISSION

One of the constructive pieces of municipal legislation was the creation of the Saskatchewan Assessment Commission, following a request of the Municipal Associations that inquiry be made into alleged inequities in assessments, with particular reference to inequitable methods in equalising the assessments as between urban and rural municipalities. Fair and equalised assessments over the whole Province is an absolute necessity if justice is to be done all citizens in the payment of the Public Revenue Tax.

During the last six years the Commission heard and disposed of an average of 700 appeals per annum from the courts of revision of the towns, villages, rural municipalities and school districts. Soon after its appointment the Commission

found that many of the assessments throughout the Province were very inequitable, unfair, and some even illegal and contrary to Statutes. These were gradually abolished, so that assessments are regarded as eminently satisfactory at the present time, a fact to which the Municipal Associations themselves have borne evidence on various occasions.

The following tables exhibit the equalised assessments in both urban centres and rural municipalities at the present time:

Urban Centres

Class 1—Population	1 to 150.....	\$ 12,166,059
Class 2—Population	150 to 500.....	46,577,849
Class 3—Population	500 to 1,000.....	14,749,222
Class 4—Population	1,000 to 3,000.....	19,980,893
Class 5—Population	3,000 to 10,000.....	19,904,820
Class 6—Population	10,000 up	104,179,068
		<hr/>
		\$217,557,911

Rural Municipalities (Including Hamlets)

Land in Rural Municipalities	\$879,168,532
Buildings in Hamlets.....	7,489,700
Business in Hamlets.....	3,739,963
	<hr/>
	\$890,398,195

Grand Total for Province, \$1,107,956,106

(NOTE.—In cities, towns, villages and hamlets the assessment includes land, buildings, business and income; in the rural municipalities (aside from hamlets) the assessment is of land only).

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD

Closely associated with the work of all municipalities is the Local Government Board, consisting of three members appointed for a term of ten years, and removal only by the Legislative Assembly. Associated with the Board is an advisory committee of two members, appointed annually, one by the executive of the Provincial organization representing Rural Municipalities and the other by the executive of the Provincial organization representing Urban Municipalities. In general, the Board has supervision over the capital expenditures of cities, towns, villages, rural municipalities, school districts, hospital districts and rural telephone companies.

The present strong financial position of Saskatchewan municipalities, both urban and rural, while, of course, mainly due to the care and forethought of the various municipal councils, is also attributable in no small degree to the control exercised by the Local Government Board over municipal borrowings. A few years ago a number of urban municipalities were in financial difficulties,

but through the good offices of the Board with the debenture holders satisfactory readjustments were effected, and at the present time there is not one municipality in the Province which is not meeting its debenture liabilities, as to both principal and interest.

Municipalities Financially Strong

At no time in the history of the Province were municipalities in a stronger position financially. Villages and Rural Municipalities are steadily reducing liabilities, while their cash surpluses are increasing. According to the last printed report of the Department of Municipal Affairs the total cash balances of all Rural Municipalities and Villages were sufficiently large in each of the past three years to pay off total sundry liabilities, amounts due schools, telephone companies, etc., on account of tax demands, and all bank overdrafts and bank loans, and still have the actual surpluses of cash shown in the following table:

	1925	1926	1927
Rural Municipalities.....	\$265,879	\$1,031,951	\$1,239,212
Villages.....	91,071	157,735	190,033

The Only Criticism

The only criticism heard of the Local Government Board comes from the larger cities which sometimes feel aggrieved when the Board declines to authorise the full amount of their projected programmes of improvements to be carried out on borrowed capital, and the Tory Opposition is now seeking to capitalize such local feeling against the Gardiner Government on the ground that it should either restrict the powers of the Board, discipline it, or override its decisions,—a somewhat peculiar and inconsistent attitude in view of its loud protestations against what it terms “political” interference in some matters of administration, and Dr. Anderson’s professed liking for independent commissions to manage the affairs of government.

The present high standing of all Saskatchewan public bodies in the money markets, as contrasted with the position of quite a few of these same bodies not many years ago, is sufficient answer to any minor criticisms now urged against the Local Government Board.

Nor should it be forgotten that the credit of the Province as a whole, and of every municipality within its borders, is directly affected by the standing of every individual municipal unit. The financial structure of the Province and of its municipalities, urban and rural, are all more or less bound up together and anything that adversely affects the one will inevitably re-act upon the others. It is a case of the whole chain only being as strong as its weakest link and it is therefore the bounden duty of the Province to exercise control and supervision over all in the interests of all.

Public Works

THE substantial nature of the public buildings of Saskatchewan symbolises the pride and aspirations of an industrious and united people in and for the Province of which they are citizens.

No legitimate expenditure has been begrudged upon essential institutions whether they be legislative, administrative, educational, or penal, or erected for the care of the physically and mentally sick or for the aged and infirm.

The sole restriction placed by the people upon expenditures for these purposes is and has been that full value for money expended is received.

This has been the guiding principle of Liberal Governments of Saskatchewan in matters of this kind, throughout the brief but colorful history of the province. The dignified, impressive public buildings which grace several of the urban communities and which would be a credit to any country, stand as irrefutable evidence of the fact that Liberal Governments have exacted 100 cents of value for every dollar expended.

A growing population, increasing requirements of a progressive civilisation, entail recurrent demands upon the Government for provision of new institutions or additions to existing ones. Liberal Governments in Saskatchewan have met these demands and, while keeping a watchful eye on the Public Debt, which (as may be read elsewhere in this booklet) has been kept within reasonable bounds, have kept these institutions at the peak of efficiency without in any way impairing the credit of the province.

The present Government, like its predecessors, has had occasion to meet such demands and in doing so it has kept Saskatchewan consistently in the forefront of Canadian Provinces in the nature and in the efficiency of the service rendered through and by such institutions. So true is this that criticism levelled against the public institutions of Saskatchewan by Opposition members and spokesmen has been trivial and petty in character and entirely without foundation as more than one investigation has proved.

Substantial court houses and land titles offices speak of the solidarity of Saskatchewan, the pride and aspirations of its people, as interpreted from time to time by Liberal Governments.

Sublime in lofty conception, in dignity and beauty, the LEGISLATIVE BUILDING and its environs stand as permanent emblem of the glowing confidence and buoyant optimism that animated the people of Saskatchewan in its youthful days.

The magnificent yet utilitarian college buildings comprising the UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN at Saskatoon, testify to the pre-eminence of Education in the esteem of the people and Government of Saskatchewan. No word of criticism ever has been levelled against the Government for the expenditure made necessary from time to time by the development and advancement of this seat of learning. More remarkable still, the University, since its foundation, has been immune from partisan attacks and never the centre of political polemics.

The constantly increasing educational requirements of the Province, entailing as they do, a greater annual supply of trained teachers, have necessitated erection of a third NORMAL SCHOOL. Institutions of this nature now are situated at Regina, Saskatoon and Moose Jaw—all exceptionally fine structures, and fitted with the most up-to-date equipment procurable.

Another sequel to the growth of population and the increasing demands upon the Government is the necessity for the establishment in the Province of a SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF. Heretofore, deaf, dumb and blind children of Saskatchewan were, by arrangements with the Manitoba Government and Eastern Provinces, educated in the east at the expense of the Saskatchewan Government. It will be remembered, too, that the Saskatchewan Government contributed to the capital cost of the Manitoba institution. The Government's policy was to maintain this arrangement for extra-mural tuition until such time as the condition in Saskatchewan warranted erection of such an institution in the Province. That time having come, provision was made in the estimates voted at the last session of the Legislature for the construction of a Saskatchewan School for the Deaf. Following the close of the Legislative session, the Government appointed a committee to visit similar institutions in adjacent states of the American Union with a view to gathering ideas and assembling data that might be applied in the Saskatchewan school.

Provision of new SANATORIA for the care and treatment of tubercular patients has been necessitated by developments in the campaign against the "great white plague," in recent years. In 1921, an intensive survey of the needs of Saskatchewan in this respect was made, the results of which showed that two more sanatoria of 100 beds each were urgently required. In 1925, one of these, with 150 beds, was erected in Saskatoon. In 1927, the question of providing increased sanatorium accommodation was again discussed and, upon recommendation of the Anti-Tuberculosis League, erection of a third sanatorium was undertaken. This is now in course of construction at Prince Albert. The existing sanatoria rank with the best in the country, experts admit.

The two MENTAL HOSPITALS, situated at Weyburn and North Battleford, respectively, are acknowledged by qualified authorities to be among the finest on the continent. Dr. L. M. LeBourdais, Director of Education to the National Mental Hygiene Council of Canada, addressing Saskatchewan School Trustees in convention at Moose Jaw, last year, spoke in the following language in referring to the mental hospitals.

"When we talk of mental trouble we are still back in the field of mythology and superstition. Most people look upon it as something to talk about with bated breath. They do not mind mentioning that they have a friend in the tubercular sanatorium, but they say nothing about it if they have a friend in North Battleford or Weyburn. I should like to say in passing, that your two institutions in this Province are the equal of any in Canada. That does not mean to say that twenty years from now they should not be better than they are today, but they are keeping pace with psychiatric progress as well as any in Canada."

Marking a step forward in that progress, an appropriation of \$300,000 was voted at last session of the Legislature in connection with mental hospitals in addition to ordinary maintenance.

Sign manifest of the fact that Liberal Governments of Saskatchewan have appreciated that it is the duty of the State to look after those unable to look after or fend for themselves and who cannot be cared for properly by their relatives, is the HOME FOR THE AGED AND INFIRM at Wolseley. Though the Home is filled to capacity, everything possible is being done by the present Liberal Government to make the declining days of the aged and the infirm as pleasant as may be.

Space forbids a discussion of the many other public buildings situated in different parts of the Province which are worthy of mention and of public consideration and notice. Point might be made of the fact, however, that the Government has re-opened Moosomin Jail and is now using it for first offenders in order that they might be confined apart from, and so not brought under the influence of, habitual criminals.

PETTY OPPOSITION CRITICISM

The foregoing brief commentary upon the activities of the Government in meeting the needs of a progressive community in the matter of public institutions, is sufficient to show that, from the unpartisan viewpoint, there is nothing of a fundamental nature upon which criticism may justly be based.

It remained for members of His Majesty's Loyal Conservative Opposition to dredge the depths of the petty, the picayune and the absurd, in their efforts to sow seeds of suspicion that all was not well with the conduct of these institutions.

"Skimmed milk," "half-bricks," "straight-jackets," a "rain-wet exercise court," variously and vicariously have provided texts for robustious tirades from Opposition spokesmen against the Government in which mere rumor was inflated into allegation and gossip into charge, only to explode at the first pin-prick of analysis and everyday commonsense.

A MOLE-HILL MAGNIFIED

The "skimmed milk" fiasco arose in connection with the charge that the food supplied to the old folks in the Home for the Aged and Infirm at Wolseley was not all that it might be. Giving the matter perhaps more serious consideration than it deserved, the Government instituted an investigation in which evidence was taken under oath. That evidence which is still extant, reveals conclusively there was nothing to the charge—nothing worthy to be magnified into the proportions it assumed under the Opposition microscope. The quietus was given to the matter when, in response to a question asked in the Legislature, Hon. Dr. Uhrich, Minister of Public Works and Public Health, gave the cost of meals per inmate per day in the public institutions of the province, as follows:

Battleford Mental Hospital.	22 cents;
Weyburn Mental Hospital.	19 cents;
Home for Infirm, Wolseley.	35 cents;
Prince Albert Jail.	16 cents;
Regina Jail.	20 cents;
Industrial School for Boys.	28 cents.

It will be noted that meals at the Wolseley Home cost more than in any other institution. Yet the one complaint the Conservatives had to make with regard to food supplied in these institutions related to the Wolseley Home!

BLINDED BY BRICK DUST

The "half brick" episode dissolved in sheerest comedy. It was Mr. Howard McConnell, of Saskatoon, who, from Conservative benches, hurled the "half-brick" aimlessly but with a gust of eloquence worthy of a whole brick, at least. Armed with his "half-brick," he invaded the Legislative Chamber one afternoon during the 1927-28 Session and, with a flush of indignation (or brick dust) mantling his brow, proceeded to impale the Government in true quixotic fashion, for boosting U.S. clayworking industries at the expense of the native. He had filched this half-brick from a pile of face brick being used in the construction of an addition to a telephone building. Upon it, he preached his homily in defence of home industries.

Now, it did so happen that the face brick in question was imported from the United States for the very cogent reason that the face-brick to make a perfect match with the existing front was not procurable elsewhere. As a matter of fact, Saskatchewan brick manufacturers had refused to undertake the expenditure necessary to remodel their plants to produce the style of brick required. It was too much outlay for a comparatively small job. Consequently, the Government was forced to go south to duplicate the brick used in the original edifice.

ANDERSON AT BAT

The criticism relative to the "airing courts" or "exercise courts" and "straight jackets" had reference to alleged conditions at the Weyburn Mental Hospital. This emanated from Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, Conservative leader, and, while just as far-fetched and unfounded as the "skimmed milk," and "half-brick" absurdities, was made the basis of serious charges of inefficiency in the conduct of the institution. These charges, read in the light of the judgment of an expert of national repute such as Dr. LeBourdais, can carry very little weight. However, the circumstances under which they were made, the fact that an investigation was demanded into the conditions he alleged existed and the further fact that the matter illustrates the crass egotism and the blatant indifference of the Conservative leader to the elementary principles of common courtesy and fairplay, justify some explanation of the matter.

Both criticisms placed on the dissecting table by Hon. Dr. Uhrich, slipped into the category of puerile and pusillanimous things when subjected to the keen scalpel of the Minister's wit. The "airing courts" might have been muddy, as Dr. Anderson charged—because it had rained heavily prior to his visiting the place. The "straight jackets" might have been obvious to Dr. Anderson. These things are not uncommon in institutions of the kind—probably more common at Weyburn than at North Battleford for reasons which a little forethought might have rendered obvious to the most obtuse—even Dr. Anderson.

ANDERSONIAN ACROBATICS

The Conservative leader has a peculiar habit of demanding investigations—then backing out of them!

During the 1927-28 session, for example, he demanded that a legislative committee be appointed to inspect the various public institutions of the Province,

insinuating in his demand, that a condition existed which made such investigation necessary. The Government readily acceded to his wish. A committee was appointed of which he was a member with Dr. Tran, Progressive leader, as a colleague representative of the Opposition. Dates for the commencement of the investigation were set to accommodate Dr. Anderson. What happened?

Dr. Tran intimated that private affairs made it impossible for him to join the committee of investigation in its tour of the public institutions.

Dr. Anderson visited North Battleford Mental Hospital with the Committee. That was the first and only institution he visited as a member of the committee he himself had called into being. That was the extent of his desire to investigate the conduct of the various institutions. That was the measure of his sincerity and the index of his valuation of the insinuations he had broadcast.

Yet he had the unmitigated effrontery to demand a further investigation of public institutions at the 1928-29 session of the Provincial Legislature!!!

The Conservative leader did visit the Weyburn Mental Hospital, later—but not as a member of the Legislature, nor as a member of the Committee appointed at his instance. He went as a guest—a Rotary Club guest! Upon the strength of that visit he launched his attack on the management of the institution, using the “airing courts” and “straight jackets” as two of the props. Exemplary conduct for a guest!!!! Worthy of an aspirant to the position of First Minister of the Province of Saskatchewan!!!!

THAT CAMPAIGN FUND CHARGE!

By and large, these efforts to exaggerate the trivial cause little more than a ripple upon the political stream—a ripple of laughter! More serious, perhaps, was the criticism made relative to the letting of contracts for public buildings which, the Conservative leader insinuated, could not be let by public tender to the lowest bidder because every contractor was forced to contribute to the Liberal Party campaign fund!

This criticism and insinuation failed to withstand the ruthless shock of irrefutable fact. Hon. Dr. Uhrich, as Minister of Public Works, submitted a list of tenders received and contracts awarded in connection with all public buildings erected during the period of his incumbency and, to show the impossibility of any transaction of the nature insinuated by the Conservative leader, prefaced the list by outlining the procedure followed.

Tenders for construction of public buildings are advertised for weeks in advance in the newspapers;

All tenders are opened in public and usually all the contractors are present at the time;

A Minister is always present—if not the Minister of Public Works, then the Minister of some other Department.

Following is the list submitted in reply to Dr. Anderson by Hon. Dr. Uhrich showing the building, the tenders received and the award in each case:

Prince Albert Court House

	Floretyle	Floor slab solid concrete
Wilson & Wilson	\$140,800.00	\$140,500.00
A. W. Cassidy & Co.....	139,437.00	139,957.00
Poole Construction Co.....	144,800.00	.....
Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	137,970 00	137,150.00

The contract was awarded to Smith Bros. & Wilson at \$137,970 00—which was the lowest tender.

Weyburn Court House

		Trus-con
P. W. Graham & Sons	\$81,963.00	\$82,968.00
Bird, Woodall & Simpson....	84,450.00	85,400.00
Wilson & Wilson.....	83,135.00	81,274.00
E. C. W. Johnston.....	85,900.00	86,600.00
Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	83,770.00	83,430.00

Wilson & Wilson, submitting the lowest tender, received the contract for the Weyburn Court House.

Melfort Court House

	Trus-con	Massillon
Wilson & Wilson.....	\$60,724.00	\$60,674.00
A. W. Cassidy Co., Ltd.....	62,235.00	61,195.00
Bird, Woodall & Simpson....	60,900.00	60,800.00
Poole Construction Co.....	61,987.00	61,987.00
C. M. Miners Construction Co.	63,850.00	64,264.00

The lowest tender being from Wilson & Wilson, the contract was awarded to that firm.

Gravelbourg Court House

J. L. Guay.....	\$54,994.00
Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	44,700.00
Hamilton Construction Company Ltd.....	49,200.00
Poole Construction Co.....	52,783.00
A. W. Cassidy Co.....	46,748.00
Wilson & Wilson	45,325.00

Smith Bros. & Wilson, having submitted the lowest tender, the contract was awarded to them.

Shaunavon Court House

Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	\$43,175.00
J. P. Moore.....	55,400.00
E. L. P. Strickland.....	58,200.00
Hamilton Construction Co.....	48,100.00
Poole Construction Co.....	51,983.00
A. W. Cassidy Co.....	46,148.00
Wilson & Wilson	44,125.00

The lowest tender was from Smith Bros. & Wilson and they were awarded the contract.

Wynyard Court House

Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	\$42,870.00
Hamilton Construction Co.....	48,100.00
A. W. Cassidy Co.....	45,148.00
P. W. Graham.....	43,735.00
Wilson & Wilson.....	44,125.00
James Young.....	49,750.00

Again the lowest tender being from Smith Bros. & Wilson, they were given the contract.

Moose Jaw Normal School

Alex. Ferguson Ltd.....	\$362,000.00
A. W. Cassidy Co.....	343,454.00
Smith Bros. & Wilson.....	357,700.00
Wilson & Wilson.....	346,495.00
Bird, Woodall & Simpson.....	352,000.00
Poole Construction Co.....	363,000.00

The lowest tender was submitted by A. W. Cassidy who was awarded the contract.

Prince Albert Sanatorium

		Trus-con
Poole Construction Co.....	\$609,800.50	\$612,680.00
Wilson & Wilson Ltd.....	599,750.00	607,250.00
A. W. Cassidy Co.....	645,446.00	644,246.00

Again Wilson & Wilson submitting the lowest tender were awarded the contract.

This list shows conclusively that every contract was awarded to the firm submitting the lowest tender. Every one of these tenders was opened in public and, consequently, it was absolutely impossible for any of the men to contribute anything to campaign funds.

(See Appendix "C" of this Handbook for complete list of Public Buildings.)

The Liberal Government and Saskatchewan Coal

RECURRENT attacks have been made upon the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan, in recent years, on the absurd ground that it is antagonistic to Saskatchewan coal. Criticism, developing into almost specific charges that the Government has "boosted" Alberta coal and "knocked" Saskatchewan coal, has been voiced.

These attacks have emanated from two sources. One of these, dictated by sincere if misguided, belief, is understandable, excusable and worthy of consideration even though it is founded on a false premise. The other, dictated by the insensate bias of political partisanship and a thirst for anything which appears to have within it the element of a "vote-catcher," is contemptible as it is inconsistent.

Saskatchewan coal is a lignite with a moisture content of approximately 35 per cent. It requires specially constructed heating plants for its economical use, and only when that is done, is it an economical and efficient domestic fuel. However, by converting this lignite into briquettes and so eliminating the moisture factor, Saskatchewan coal can be transformed into a high-grade domestic fuel of a calorific value almost the equal of imported anthracite, which can be used in all standard grates. These are the acknowledged facts.

Saskatchewan's Coal Reserves

Saskatchewan has an estimated reserve of 50,000,000,000 short tons of this lignite deposited over a large area in the south-eastern portion of the Province, with Estevan as centre. Annual consumption of coal in Saskatchewan exceeds 1,500,000 tons. The annual output of Saskatchewan mines being 500,000 tons, the remaining million tons required to meet the consumption is met by importations, chiefly from Alberta.

The efforts of the Saskatchewan Government for many years have been directed toward meeting the entire home consumption with Saskatchewan coal.

To effect this, a method had to be established by which Saskatchewan lignite could be transformed into briquettes so that it might meet the requirements of a domestic fuel. Also—a method had to be established by which the raw lignite might be used economically in large plants.

Before dealing with what the Government has done and is doing to solve these problems and to stimulate development of the coal resources of the Province, it were well to devote a little attention to the criticisms made.

Opposition Criticism Refuted

This criticism was crystallized at last session of the Provincial Legislature when, on January 10, 1929, Dr. J. F. Creighton (Independent, Estevan), moved the following resolution:

"That this Assembly request the Government, within the next three years, to arrange to use Saskatchewan fuel exclusively in the heating plants in all Governmental buildings situated south of and on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, east of and including Moose Jaw."

It will be noted that this delimitation of the area of use by the Estevan member is tantamount to an admission that, where longer hauls are entailed, Saskatchewan lignite cannot be used as economically in Governmental buildings situated in other parts of the Province, as Alberta coal.

Hon. Dr. Uhrich, Minister of Public Works and Public Health, speaking on the Resolution, moved the following amendment:

"That this Assembly request the Government to arrange to use Saskatchewan fuel in the heating plants of all Governmental buildings as extensively and as soon as possible."

"Votes and Proceedings" of the same day (see also, Journals, page 71), give the result of the debate as "unanimously" for the motion as amended. Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, Conservative leader, speaking in the debate, stated that he would "support the amendment because it was virtually the same as the plank in the Conservative platform on this subject."

Anderson's 'Volte-face'

Eleven days later came one of those spectacular right-about-faces for which the Conservative leader is noted. Speaking in the Budget debate Dr. Anderson reverted to the coal question and calmly admitted that the Conservative executive and candidates had filched the motion of the Estevan member and thrust it in the Conservative platform. His very words were:

"I may say that the Party I have the honor to represent, in the executive meeting held recently, when we had all the candidates present, made its stand a little more definite so that we can let the people of the Province know as to what we plan to do in connection with this industry. **WE ARE PREPARED TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMMEDIATE USE OF SASKATCHEWAN COAL IN ALL GOVERNMENTAL BUILDINGS ON THE MAIN LINE OF THE C.P.R. AND SOUTH OF IT, AND TO MAKE ALL THE NECESSARY CHANGES AT ONCE IN HEATING PLANTS NOW SITUATED IN THESE BUILDINGS. THAT IS OUR PLATFORM.**"

Thus the Conservatives also would CONFINE the use of Saskatchewan coal to a fraction of the Province—and they hold out this as a tremendous boon (or bait) to the coal industry of Saskatchewan!

There is no restrictive limitation in the Government's policy.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE AND IS DOING FOR SASKATCHEWAN COAL

The facts show that Liberal Governments of Saskatchewan have done everything possible to place the coal industry on a sound, substantial basis and that, as result of Governmental policy, **THE COAL INDUSTRY IN SASKATCHEWAN IS BEING REVOLUTIONIZED.**

What are the facts with regard to coal used in Government buildings in the southern part of the Province at the present time—the very institutions upon which the member for Estevan and the Conservative party base their plea?

During the fiscal year 1927-28 the amounts of Saskatchewan coal burned in Government institutions in the southern part of the Province were as follows:

Police Building, Regina.....	378 tons
Normal School, Regina.....	902 "
Land Titles Office, Regina.....	204 "
Provincial Gaol, Regina.....	1,253 "
Court House, Moose Jaw.....	168 "
Home for Infirm, Wolseley.....	419 "
Weyburn Mental Hospital.....	2,649 "
Weyburn Police Building.....	150 "
Total.....	6,123 tons

As a matter of fact, there are only two institutions in the southern part of the Province in which Saskatchewan coal is not exclusively burned. These are the Weyburn Mental Hospital and the power-house of the Parliament Buildings. Even at the Mental Hospital, it will be noted, a considerable amount of Saskatchewan coal is used.

The Conservative "boon," therefore, does not amount to much!

During the summer of 1928, at the instance of Hon. Dr. Uhrich, the Minister-in-Charge, the Deputy Minister of Public Works and the Government Engineer were sent to North Dakota to study the methods employed there where similar lignite is burned exclusively in State buildings and to ascertain at what cost grates capable of burning Saskatchewan lignite efficiently and economically could be installed at Weyburn and in the power-house of the Parliament Buildings. The engineer reported such grates would cost \$75,000 and \$70,000 respectively. Thereupon, Hon. Dr. Uhrich on behalf of the Government authorized the Department of Public Works to make the necessary changes.

Meantime, however, a further development of the situation occurred which obligated the Government to defer that action for a time. This was the successful culmination of the long years of endeavor to convert Saskatchewan lignite into high-grade briquettes and produce them on a commercial scale.

Lignite Utilization Board

The Saskatchewan Government for many years had persistently bent its efforts toward this end. First in co-operation with the Federal and Manitoba Governments through the agency of the Lignite Utilization Board, and latterly alone, the Saskatchewan Government stuck tenaciously to the task and, at the beginning of the present year saw its hope realized.

From its organisation in 1919, down to 1924, the Lignite Utilization Board conducted experiments at the Experimental Plant which was erected at Bienfait. Manitoba withdrew its support from the Board in 1924, and from that time on Saskatchewan labored alone to solve the problem.

After more than \$1,000,000 had been expended in the experimental work, the Saskatchewan Government finally succeeded in interesting British capital in the project and, as Western Dominion Collieries Ltd., these British capitalists now are placing Saskatchewan briquettes on the market, with an encouraging demand from the consuming public for the product.

Government Aids New Industry

To encourage the infant industry, the Government undertook to turn over the Bienfait plant to the company for a nominal sum when the company had expended \$600,000 on remodelling the plant for production purposes. In response to later representations, the Government guaranteed to keep the plant at peak production for one year, by absorbing the entire initial output (20,000 tons a year), and using the briquettes in Governmental buildings. This was done in order to give the company time to standardize, and establish a market for its product.

It was for this reason, that installation of the new grates at Weyburn Mental Hospital and the power-house at Parliament Buildings was deferred. **THE POSTPONEMENT WAS ALTOGETHER IN THE INTERESTS OF THE COAL INDUSTRY OF SASKATCHEWAN.**

Largely through action of the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan, therefore, the problem of converting Saskatchewan lignite into a domestic fuel equal to high-grade imported coal has been solved and a Province-wide market is opened for Saskatchewan coal.

Thus, the Government has done what Government could to aid the coal industry of the Province!

Other Criticism

Supporting their contention, Opposition critics claimed that Manitoba burns Saskatchewan coal in the plants at the Mental Hospitals at Selkirk and Brandon, "very economically." Comparison of the costs of fuel, light and power in these Manitoba institutions with that in the Mental Hospital in Weyburn during 1926, shows a large margin of "economy" in favor of the Saskatchewan institution:

Selkirk	Brandon	Weyburn
\$56,999.19	\$58,383.92	\$41,090 17

But the "crowning folly" so far as criticism of the Government's attitude toward Saskatchewan coal is concerned was that of Mr. Howard McConnell, who, as Conservative member for Saskatoon and as reported in the "Saskatoon Phoenix," told a Saskatoon audience that "the coal here in Saskatchewan used in the Government buildings was imported from the United States."

THE FACT IS—Not one single pound of United States coal has been imported since 1917 (the year of the "coal famine") by the Government for use in Government buildings!

Telephones

THE keynote of most of Saskatchewan's activities is CO-OPERATION. To such an extent is this the case that Saskatchewan is now known all over this continent and in Europe as the Co-operative Province. It is not surprising, therefore, that the telephone system of the Province should be largely based on the co-operative principle. In this respect it differs from that of the other Western Provinces.

In Manitoba, the Government adopted the policy of Government ownership and operation of all telephones, including rural services as well as city exchanges and long distance lines. In this respect its policy was identical with its elevator policy.

Saskatchewan, on the other hand, which rejected Government ownership and operation of elevators in favor of the establishment of a great farmers' co-operative system, assisted financially by the Government, likewise accepted the co-operative principle to a large extent in creating its telephone system. the adopted plan being for the Government to own and operate the central exchanges in cities and towns and the long distance lines, while rural services should be provided by farmers' co-operative companies, but with Government encouragement and assistance, and linking into the Government system as an integral part of a Province-wide system.

The Alberta system is modelled after that of Manitoba.

Rapid Growth of Rural Telephones

The beneficial effects of Saskatchewan's policy were quickly seen in the phenomenal expansion of rural telephones throughout the length and breadth of the Province. In no other way could the vast extent of Saskatchewan's rural area have been so rapidly and efficiently covered, and in a comparatively few years Saskatchewan could boast of a larger number of rural telephones per head of population than any Province in Canada, State in the United States, or country in the world, except Sweden. This high standing remains true today. There are as many rural telephones in Saskatchewan as in Manitoba and Alberta combined.

Under the Saskatchewan policy the farmers own, control and operate their own rural lines, fix their own rates which, under this plan, are low, while local management based on local conditions and circumstances, and natural definition of boundaries of telephone areas through community interests, has resulted in a service which has given general satisfaction.

How Government Assists

The Government co-operates fully with these rural co-operative companies, providing for their incorporation free of charge, inspecting construction and maintenance of lines, conducting and maintaining a school of instruction where

practical knowledge of how to operate the system and dealing with any troubles that may arise can be obtained, with free advice available at all times from the engineering, commercial and traffic branches of the Department.

The Government requires that all rural lines be built to a standard sufficiently high to permit of rural lines being connected with central exchanges and all long distance lines so that efficient service can be given over the whole system, and enabling the rural subscriber to communicate easily and clearly from his farm telephone with points as far distant as long distance can reach.

System Right Up-to-Date

Run on a strictly business basis, the telephone system of Saskatchewan is one of the best in the world, and the standard of construction is not excelled anywhere and in many places not even approached. In all respects the Department keeps abreast of the latest developments and improvements in Telephony, Saskatchewan being one of the first provinces in Canada to adopt the automatic system in the larger centres of population, and has even extended it to rural lines connected with exchanges equipped with automatic devices.

The following figures are, in themselves, eloquent of the growth of the telephone system of the Province,—a growth without parallel in any country within such a short space of time.

Exchanges.....	307
Toll Offices.....	164
	471
Subscribers.....	37,084
Long Distance Wire Miles.....	38,547
Subscribers (Rural).....	68,705
Wire Mileage (Rural).....	207,576

Summarised, local Telephone Service is furnished in the Province as follows:

System	Subscribers
Government.....	37,084
Rural (Under Old Act).....	7,142
Rural (Under Present Act.).....	61,496
Rural (Independent).....	67
Town (Independent).....	695
Municipal (Village).....	77
Hamlets and Villages served by Rural Companies	1,976
	108,537

The following figures show Rural Lines under the two systems referred to above:

	New System	Old System	Total
Subscribers.....	61,496	7,142	68,638
Capital Invested.....	\$16,567,579	\$915,400	\$17,482,979
Total Miles.....			60,972
Total Subscribers.....			68,638

(NOTE.—Approximately one-half of the debentures for \$16,567,579 representing the capital invested by rural companies has been paid.)

Even Opposition is Satisfied

So successful indeed has the Saskatchewan system demonstrated itself to be that no word of criticism or complaint is heard from the Opposition leader and his followers as to the service provided, and only minor objections relative to replacement reserves. (See Sessional Papers, 1928-29, Pages 252-255.)

Glowing tribute to the soundness, amazing growth, and outstanding success of the Saskatchewan system, was recently made by a writer in the magazine "Telephony," published in Chicago, and republished in "The Financial Post" of Toronto. Nowhere, says this writer, has the same degree of success been achieved in the matter of rural telephone service as in Saskatchewan, and, after giving a detailed outline of the policy pursued in this Province, he concludes: "The rural telephone system in Saskatchewan is a wonderful achievement."

Railways, Labour and Industries

THE Department of Railways, Labour and Industries, created during the regime of the present Government to co-ordinate for administrative purposes certain allied activities, has, in the short period of its existence, more than justified itself.

Already, since its formation at the 1927-28 session, a long record of achievement stands to the credit of the Department.

Tangible evidence of its work and worth is not far to seek. To its inspiration and active assistance, directly or indirectly, can be attributed some of the credit for the recent tremendous spurt in branch line construction in the Province, the industrial development and expansion, recent concessions in the matter of freight rates and the enactment of some advanced labor legislation.

The activities of the Department are many and varied but linked together in that, for the most part, they are associated with the development or conservation of the resources of the Province and the industries serving or based upon these resources.

Briefly stated, the Department concerns itself with branch line construction and freight rate matters; the conditions, and the supply, of labor; promotion of industries and the development of the natural resources of the Province; colonization and settlement work and the conservation of the game birds and wild life of the Province.

In all these activities, noteworthy achievements have been recorded since the department was created.

RAILWAY BRANCH

Branch Line Construction: The record of branch line construction in Saskatchewan stands as a lasting testimonial to the triumph of Liberal policy in Saskatchewan in connection with railways.

The fact that Saskatchewan stands second only to Ontario of Canadian Provinces in railway mileage, is directly attributable to the impetus given to branch line construction in the earlier days of the Province, by the Liberal Government's policy of guaranteeing the bonds of such railways. Elsewhere in this handbook, comparison is drawn with neighboring provinces who adopted other policies, that comparison being **WHOLLY FAVORABLE TO SASKATCHEWAN.**

Growth of railway mileage in Saskatchewan is graphically illustrated by the following table:

	1907	1917	1928	1929
C.P.R.....	1,235.85	2,778.90	3,493.31	3,605.61
C.N.R.....	1,000.59	3,369.36	3,858.07	4,081.39
Total.....	2,444.44	6,148.27	7,351.38	7,687.00

The full effect of the Liberal Government's policy may be appreciated by noting the great increase in mileage of railways now owned and operated by the Canadian National system, between the years 1907 and 1917. The Saskatchewan Government's guarantees applied to branch lines constructed by the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific Railways, since incorporated in the national system. It is significant to note that the Federal Government having taken over the railways and with it responsibility for the bonds issued, Saskatchewan has the railways without a cent being added to the public debt, and, virtually, without further responsibility in connection with them.

Since the new Department came into being, it has successfully championed the rights of certain communities in the matter of branch lines, transfer tracks, retention of station agents and other important services. It has been able to secure the co-operation of the railroad companies and consideration by them of suggestions made with respect to such construction. These suggestions are reflected in the recent branch line programmes of both great organisations. The combined programmes for 1929 of the two railways, indicate a contemplated addition of approximately 1,400 miles to the railway mileage in Saskatchewan.

Freight Rates: This important issue, with which the Saskatchewan Government has grappled persistently and with considerable success, has been assigned to a special branch created during 1928 and presided over by a freight rates expert. As Saskatchewan led the fight for renewal of the Crows Nest Pass rate agreement, and restoration of the schedule thereunder, so Saskatchewan is leading the fight for equalization of the Western Rate structure and the elimination of existing discriminatory rates against Saskatchewan distributing centres. The Department, through this Freight Rates Branch, now is engaged on the compilation of a rate structure to apply on the Hudson Bay railway, upon which to base a submission for fair and equitable rates on the new route when that important matter is considered by the Federal authorities and the Board of Railway Commissioners. Saskatchewan at present is aligned in the fight against increase in the Express Rates, now being waged before the Railway Board.

LABOUR BUREAU

Employment Service: The Employment Service of Canada, which, in Saskatchewan is operated by the Department, approximately 65 per cent. of the cost being borne by the Provincial Government and the remaining 35 per cent. by the Federal Government, came into being in 1918. There are 10 offices in Saskatchewan, situated at Regina, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Yorkton, Weyburn, Prince Albert, Estevan, North Battleford and Melfort.

This Service supplies men and women for all classes of work without cost to either employers or employees. During the past six years, 445,544 persons applied for work, 525,595 vacancies were reported, and 433,577 placements made. During 1928, 86,966 applicants obtained employment through Saskatchewan Employment Service offices.

One of the most important functions of this Service is the supply and distribution of harvest help.

During the British Harvester movement of 1928, the Department placed 6,000 (in round figures) of the miner-harvesters on Saskatchewan farms, the

manner in which the work was done by the Saskatchewan Department eliciting high commendation not only from the harvesters themselves, but from G. F. Plant, secretary of the Overseas Settlement Department, London, Eng., and (more impressive still) from Lord Lovat. When harvest operations ceased, winter employment was found by the Department for many of those who elected to remain in the Province.

Administration of Labor Laws: The Labor Branch of the Department is responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of The Factories Act, The Minimum Wage Act, The Steam Boilers Act, The Elevator Act and The Mines Act. Practically all this legislation has for its object the health, safety and comfort of employees engaged in industries in the Province.

The Minimum Wage Act is designed to prevent introduction of "sweat-shops" and to protect female employees from unscrupulous exploitation by their employers. The regulations made under this Act set the maximum working hours and the minimum wages for women employed in certain industries in Saskatchewan cities. The protection afforded by this Act extends to approximately 3,000 women workers. (See pamphlet entitled "Saskatchewan Women and Children.")

INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCES

Investigation and Research: The Department, through its technical officers, is conducting an investigation into the potential resources of the Province the results of which are made available to interested investors.

Through this Department, supplemented by the research laboratories at the University of Saskatchewan, assistance of great value has been rendered industries based upon the natural resources of the Province.

Through efforts of the Department, possibilities for profitable development of the coal, clay and other non-metallic minerals have been made known, and the potential wealth of the northern mineralized area brought to public attention.

Opportunities for the establishment of new industries based on utilization of grain straw and on flax straw are being investigated by the Department.

Industrial Development: Industrially, Saskatchewan's recent development has been almost unprecedented. With scarcely an exception, all industries of importance which have commenced operations in recent years, in Saskatchewan, have received some assistance from the Department.

In many cases, surveys of raw materials were made on their behalf, technical advice given and, in special cases, laboratory experiments were conducted

In other cases, necessary information was compiled, contact was established between the capitalist on the one hand and the man with raw materials or a new process to develop, on the other.

Indicative of the steady increase in the "industrialization" of the Province is the following significant table:

	1905	1915	1927	1928 (estimated)
Number of plants	55	238	721	752
Capital	\$3,820,975	\$14,736,860	\$38,387,248	\$43,401,748
Employees	1,376	4,000	5,683	7,014
Value of products	\$2,443,801	\$13,355,206	\$52,180,681	\$70,000,000

Mineral Resources: Recent discoveries, the result of active prospecting throughout the northern area, have revealed that area as a veritable treasure chest. Efforts of the Government, through the Department, have been applied to the matter of making that area more easily accessible to the prospectors and mining men. To this end, the Federal authorities were induced to clear the Montreal River channel thus eliminating much of the hazard of summer entry with loads.

The \$7,000,000 power development at Island Falls on the Churchill River in Saskatchewan, to supply the necessary electrical energy for the mining operations at the Flin Flon, is a development of prime importance to the people of Saskatchewan.

With laudable and customary foresight, the Saskatchewan Government made it a term of the lease to the developing company that one-sixth of all the power developed at Island Falls would be reserved for the public use in Saskatchewan.

Thus, the rights of the people of the Province are protected, and a real contribution made toward the development of the mining industry within the boundaries of Saskatchewan.

Game Branch: The activities of the Game Branch in the conservation of the game bird and wild life of the Province are endorsed and their results appreciated, by virtually all citizens of the Province.

For the last fiscal year, it is estimated that \$1,609,782 was received by trappers for furs taken in Saskatchewan. On this the Government collected a royalty of \$54,422.75, while, from licenses for shooting, trapping and marketing of furs and game a sum of \$115,870.75 was paid into the revenues of the Province.

COLONIZATION AND IMMIGRATION

Immigration is primarily a Federal matter, despite the irresponsible utterances of Dr. J. T. M. Anderson to the contrary.

The Saskatchewan Government cannot function in anything more than an advisory capacity so far as admission of immigrants to Canada is concerned. Once the immigrant lands on Canadian soil, no provincial government can restrain him from going anywhere he likes in the Dominion. These facts, though they escape the Conservative leader, should be obvious to all. The Government, however, can **DIRECT** immigrants after their arrival—and that function it is performing through the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries.

Dr. Anderson's demands for a vigorous immigration policy, the placing of an agent-general in London, and the repatriation of **ALL** Canadians now resident in the United States when analyzed, mean nothing more nor less than a wholesale duplication of machinery already established by the Canadian Government; a duplication of the work done by Dominion and Railway immigration officials, with all the uneconomic consequences and general inefficiency such duplication entails.

The Department does concern itself with certain phases of immigration in co-operation with the Federal and Imperial Governments, or both.

It is intensely interested and prominently active in colonization and settlement work.

In order to assist and direct prospective settlers, the Department, in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture and the University, is classifying available lands in the Province so that new settlers may be directed to localities where they will have reasonable prospects of success.

Space restrictions preclude detailed consideration of the various schemes in which the Government, through the Department, has engaged to stimulate British immigration. Following is a brief resumé:

British Domestics: During the past six years, approximately 1,500 British domestics have been brought out under various schemes. Until 1924, the Saskatchewan Government advanced the whole of the cost of transportation, collecting the amount advanced at a small monthly rate after the girls were placed in employment. It is interesting to note that of the \$55,000 advanced, the Government received back the entire amount.

In 1925, British domestics were brought to Canada under the Empire Settlement Act by which the Imperial and Federal Governments advanced the necessary fares, the Provincial Government collecting these and transmitting to Ottawa the amounts repaid.

Last year (1928), the Government entered into a scheme whereby trained British domestics would be made available for farm homes in Saskatchewan. These girls, prior to emigrating from the British Isles, are given a six weeks' course of training in Canadian domestic practice, the costs of this being borne by the Imperial and Federal Governments. The Provincial Government, for its part, undertook to collect a moiety of the training cost from the employers of of the girls.

Boy Immigration: Last year, also, the Saskatchewan Government entered into an arrangement whereby selected British boys, of good parentage, are being brought to Canada as farm apprentices, the Provincial Government undertaking to supervise the distribution of these boys and to keep watch and ward over them during the period of their apprenticeship.

Distribution and supervision of these boys has been vested in Prof. Rayner, of the University of Saskatchewan, the University being used as a distributing centre. Fifty-five boys will be placed on Saskatchewan farms this year, with extension of the scheme certain if the first year's operations prove successful.

British "Trainees": The British Ministry of Labour has undertaken the training of selected young men desiring to engage in agricultural work in Canada. These youths are given a 16 weeks' intensive training course on farms maintained by the British Government, prior to their emigration from Britain. These young men (between 20 and 25 years of age) are fairly proficient in milking cows, driving horses, and ploughing and have a fair knowledge of Canadian farm machinery before they are allowed to embark. A thousand of these "Trainees" have been placed in Saskatchewan this year. It will be noted that all these schemes relate to British Immigration, so another Tory "gun" is "spiked."

TOURIST TRAFFIC

The "tourist trade" is developing into an "industry" of first-class dimensions. and, as such, is engaging the attention of the Department.

The Department, by distribution of tourist maps and general literature, by the issuance of all required information relative to the recreational resources of the Province, is doing everything possible to attract this traffic to Saskatchewan.

Approximately 55,000 tourists entered Saskatchewan through U.S. boundary ports of entry from June 1 to Oct. 15, 1928. The total is exclusive of the tourist traffic which entered the province by the inter-provincial boundaries. The number of motor tourists from the United States in the four-and-a-half months was double the total for 1927.

IF IT IS GOOD FOR SASKATCHEWAN, THE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT IS FOR IT.

Saskatchewan's Power Policy

THE alertness, vigor and progressiveness which characterise the Gardiner Government were well illustrated in its grappling with the Power question.

It is now fairly well recognised that future success and development in manufacturing industry rests largely upon cheap electric energy, and that the country or community which can supply this essential requirement will profit enormously. The rapid rise of Canada as a manufacturing and export nation within recent years can be traced directly to the development of the water powers of the Dominion and the erection of huge hydro-electric generating plants.

Leaders in finance and industry quickly grasped the fact that he who controls the sources and provision of electric energy would likewise control industry itself. Hence, the organisation of great Power corporations and the fight of financial giants to secure power sites and distribution franchises. Then followed, almost immediately, consolidation of rival companies until most countries, Canada included, were threatened with a gigantic monopoly in control of one of the chief necessities of modern life and industry.

Inasmuch as the only important water powers in Saskatchewan are located in the far north, far removed from centres of population, and the further fact that, except little Prince Edward Island, this is the most rural Province of Canada, with no very large cities, Saskatchewan was the last to attract the attention of the big Power interests. But with the decision to develop the rich Flin Flon mine straddling the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border, and the need for power to operate that huge undertaking, Saskatchewan came prominently into the picture.

Government Awake to the Situation

The Gardiner Government had, however, been giving serious thought to the question, and early in January, 1927, it appointed a Royal Commission to enquire into and report upon the economic practicability of generating power at central power plants and water power sites in the Province, and the distribution of electric energy throughout the Province.

This action by the Government stirred up the Power interests and almost immediately, and while the Commission was engaged in the task assigned to it, a number of companies, subsidiary to big Eastern and United States corporations, and financed by them, began to buy up small privately-owned plants in the Province, as well as a number of the smaller municipally-owned plants, and to connect these with power transmission lines.

When the Royal Commission reported it was found, however, that 80 per cent. of all power used in Saskatchewan was generated in the three municipally-owned plants of Regina, Saskatoon and Moose Jaw, and that the bulk of the remaining 20 per cent. was likewise produced in municipally-owned plants in the smaller cities and larger towns.

The Commission reported in favor of a Government-owned and operated system, with the three large city plants as a nucleus of a Province-wide system, the Government to undertake the operation of generating plants and the construction of high-powered transmission lines, but leaving to the municipalities their local distribution systems and all profits derived from the sale of energy. The recommendation of the Commission, stated briefly, was that the Government should own the generating plants and the long distance power transmission lines and sell current at cost, plus a fractional charge to cover emergencies, to the municipalities in bulk at the switchboard, and that the latter should distribute to its citizens and retain the profits.

Government Ownership Adopted

The Government accepted the principle of these recommendations, appointed a Provincial Power Commission with L. A. Thornton, City Commissioner of Regina, as chairman, and proceeded to carry the proposed scheme into effect. The first step was the purchase of the Saskatoon Municipal plant and the letting of contracts for a large new station there to replace the existing one which was no longer capable of meeting the increasing demands for power.

Premier Gardiner on behalf of the Government further announced that it was the policy of the Government to own the long distance power transmission lines throughout the Province just as it owns the long distance telephone lines, and thus for all time protect the people of Saskatchewan from any monopolistic control of Power. He further announced that the Government was prepared to either take over the other city plants, should the cities so desire, or to buy power from the cities and distribute it throughout the areas adjacent to such cities. The Government, however, had no intention of compelling the cities to sell their plants to the Province unless they so desired. Negotiations are now in progress with several cities which have expressed a desire to have their plants taken over and incorporated in the Provincial system.

Provincial Interests Safeguarded

The safeguarding policy of the Government was further displayed when the Flin Flon mine people made application to develop hydro-electric power at Island Falls on the Churchill river in Saskatchewan. In giving its consent to such development, the Gardiner Government stipulated that one-sixth of all the power developed should be reserved for the public use of Saskatchewan—a protection to other mining enterprises in the north country, and a very positive stimulus to mining development in that section of the Province.

Saskatchewan's Lot a Happy One

Contrasted with the power situation in other Western Provinces, Saskatchewan's lot is a particularly happy one. Control of Power in Alberta is already definitely in the hands of private companies, and not a few public men are disturbed at the prospect. In Manitoba, where the Provincial Government has a limited hydro system, private interests are strongly entrenched, and the Government's system is operated at a loss. In Saskatchewan, on the other hand, the

way is open to the creation of a great Provincial system patterned after that of Ontario which has proved such an outstanding success. Already the largest of the private companies, which became active here following the Government's announcement of a Royal Commission to study the whole question, has publicly announced its willingness to sell out, lock, stock and barrel, to the Government.

Provision of Rural Services

Admittedly, the greatest problem to be solved so far as this Province is concerned, is that of the economical distribution of power in the rural districts where population is scattered and long pole and wire mileage will be necessary. It is in this connection that the Tory Opposition offers its only real criticism of the Government's policy, but it does not and cannot offer any alternative policy. In fact, the Conservative convention platform is not prepared to go as far as the Government, the Power Plank in that platform merely promising to do "so soon as the population, wealth and industry of the Province will warrant same being done in any given area," what the Liberal Government has actually commenced to do.

The problem of creating any effective network of rural power distribution can only be brought about in this Province by a Provincial Government-owned system, and The Power Commission Act provides for the demarkation of rural power districts by the Commission and empowers the Commissioner to enter into contracts with the municipalities within such districts for the supply and distribution of electricity. It will take time, but the Liberal Government has embarked on the policy of doing it.

In conclusion it should be pointed out that the Power policy of the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan is in line with its declared policy for many years past, namely, that all utilities which by their nature must be a monopoly in order to ensure successful, economical and profitable operation, shall be publicly owned and operated in the interests of all the people of the Province, rather than by and in the interests of private individuals and corporations.

Saskatchewan's Police Force

THE responsibility of enforcing law and maintaining order within a Province rests with its Provincial Government, except in the matter of Dominion excise and customs and Indian affairs. In the very early days of this country, long before the Provincial status had been achieved, and while the Dominion Government was solely responsible for administration, it created the North-West Mounted Police to patrol, maintain order and enforce law throughout the land. When the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta were created in 1905, the duty of policing their respective territories devolved upon them. The young Governments of both Provinces, instead of establishing their own police forces, entered into arrangements with the Dominion to continue the Mounted Police, the two Provinces paying the Dominion for their services.

This arrangement continued until 1917. Then, owing to the Great War, the Dominion decided that the Mounted Police should be converted into a purely military force, and a large contingent was sent overseas. Almost overnight the Provinces were faced with the necessity of creating police forces of their own.

It is well that these facts should be remembered, because it has frequently been charged that the Saskatchewan Government ended the agreement with the Dominion, and Tory speakers have even alleged that the Liberals of Saskatchewan did this because they wanted a police force more amenable to their political dictation. The historical fact is, the Mounted Police were withdrawn in 1917 solely for military reasons, not at the request of the Saskatchewan Government, but by the Dominion authorities. Under war conditions, Saskatchewan could not well offer objection.

It was no easy matter to quickly create a new police force, especially at a time when all able-bodied men were required for military service, and it speaks volumes for the Liberal Government and those responsible for creating the Saskatchewan Provincial Police that so able and efficient a force was recruited, which, for 11 years, rendered excellent service to the people of the Province during one of the most trying periods in its history.

With the end of the war, and a return to more normal pre-war conditions, the Saskatchewan Government arrived at the conclusion that, in the interests of efficiency and economy, there should be one rather than two police forces in the Province, and thus avoid the duplication created by the Mounted Police enforcing Dominion laws and the Provincial Police enforcing Provincial laws with all the extra expense which such duplication entailed.

So a new agreement was entered into with the Dominion whereby the S.P.P. was disbanded and the R.C.M.P. once again took over the enforcement of all law in Saskatchewan as from June 1, 1928, thereby effecting a saving of some hundreds of thousands of dollars a year to the people of this Province.

The only criticism offered by the Opposition to this change is the stereotyped one offered by Dr. Anderson to nearly every item of Liberal policy, namely, that he (Anderson) suggested it first and the Government is worthy of condemnation because they did not act sooner than they did.

The Farm Loans Board and its Critics

MORE than thirteen million dollars have been loaned to approximately 4,500 farmers of Saskatchewan through the agency of the Farm Loans Board from its inception in the fall of 1917 to December 31, 1928. Based on the policy that the savings of the people could be invested to excellent advantage in the promotion of the industry upon which their own and the Province's welfare depends, the Farm Loans Board was created by Liberal Government of Saskatchewan, after thorough study of the rural credit field, to serve a dual purpose:

First—From money derived from the sale of Government-guaranteed "Farm Loan Debentures," to make loans to experienced and deserving farmers on first mortgage, for productive and improvement purposes, and,

Second—By making these loans on a 30-year amortization plan, at an interest rate of $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. (i.e., considerably below the prevailing rate), to exert a levelling and steadying influence upon the farm loan business in Saskatchewan.

In both directions, signal benefits have accrued to agriculture in Saskatchewan from operations of the Farm Loans Board.

Briefly, the practice is as follows: The Government finds the money for loaning purposes, turns it over to the Board at cost, the Board making the loans at a slightly higher rate to cover costs of operation. From the repayments received from borrowers, the Board meets all interest charges on monies advanced by the Government. Repayments on principal are turned back to the Board by the Government for re-lending purposes.

Significant Facts

These important points should be noted, and their import stressed:

At December 31, 1928:

(1) The Board had paid every cent of interest owing by it on account of advances received, from its inception, and amounting to	\$ 3,968,048.52
(2) The total amount of loans made was	13,142,437.03
(3) The total amount of principal repaid by borrowers was	4,025,349.81

Consequently, the Government was required to find just slightly over \$9,000,000 to enable the Board to loan \$13,142,437.03.

(4) The number of loans made by the Board was ..	4,489
(5) The Board, at that date, had a reserve of more than \$500,000 to take care of losses, this reserve being made up as follows:	
Real Estate Reserve	\$137,698.02
Profit and Loss; surplus of assets over liabilities ..	326,784.85

That is, if the Board collected every cent owing to it by its borrowers, it could repay the Government every cent advanced for loaning purposes and still have more than \$500,000 to the good.

The Criticism

Criticism of the Board, which at times (and particularly during the Arm River by-election campaign, 1928), has been vicious and tempered neither by wit nor wisdom, may be estimated at its true worth by consideration of the question—Who are its critics?

The answer to that question meets and nullifies the criticism. It is—one or two members of the Conservative party.

What of the farmers themselves—the men directly benefited?

What of the great farmers' organizations which speak for the mass of Saskatchewan agriculturists?

Neither farmers, individually, nor farmers, collectively, have any criticism to make of the system of its administration by the Board.

In fact, representatives of the United Farmers of Canada (Saskatchewan Section), unhesitatingly assured the Government that the Saskatchewan scheme was preferable to the Federal scheme, their sole objection being that **NOT SUFFICIENT MONEY WAS MADE AVAILABLE BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR LOANING PURPOSES!**

For several years, the Government had placed the sum of \$500,000 at the disposal of the Board. That amount was increased to \$1,000,000 by Order-in-Council early in 1928. For the current year, an additional \$500,000 has been placed at the disposal of the Board, making the total available for farm loans purposes \$1,500,000. Consequently, the U.F.C. objection gradually is being met.

Tory Tantrums

Conservative criticism has taken its usual course. It centres on "political interference" with operations of the Board.

"Political interference" is a figment of Tory imagination which attaches political significance to actions and statements the most innocent and innocuous. "Political interference," with the Tories, has become what psychologists call an "obsession mania."

The answer to that criticism (if such be needed) is that when a farmer wants a loan, he does not apply to the Premier, the Provincial Treasurer or any member of the Government. He applies directly to the Farm Loans Board. This Board, which consists of three highly respected citizens of the Province, of unimpeachable integrity, conducts its operations from an office situated a mile away from the Parliament Buildings. It conducts these operations on a strictly business basis, the same as any private loaning company—only with slightly more regard for its borrowers. So long as the applicant is a fit and proper subject for a loan, the **BOARD DOES NOT CONCERN ITSELF WITH HIS POLITICAL OR OTHER AFFILIATIONS.**

Buckle Bucks Board

Mr. W. C. Buckle, as Conservative member for Tisdale, and the only "uncamouflaged" Tory farmer in the Legislature, assumed the chief role in the Conservative attack upon the Government through the Farm Loans Board. He is reported to have stated that, of a total of 280 foreclosures in the end of 1926, in 142 cases not one dollar of principal or interest had been paid by the borrowers to the Board.

The FACTS are that, of the 280 foreclosures at that date, in only 27 cases had no payment been made and that, of the 56 foreclosures in 1927, in no case had no payment been made. That is, instead of 142 out of 280, as claimed by the Tory member, there were actually 27 out of 336 foreclosures where no payment had been made.

Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, the Tory leader, tried to make political capital of the statement of an official of a private loan company which with 2,000 loans, had only 24 under foreclosure. This he held up as a wonderful record to the disparagement of the Farm Loan Board.

As a matter of FACT, at the end of 1928, with more than 4,000 loans, the Farm Loans Board had only THREE under foreclosure. Earlier in the year, it is true, 28 loans had been foreclosed, thus making a total of 31 foreclosures out of more than 4,000 loans—AN INFINITELY BETTER AND MORE IMPRESSIVE RECORD THAN THAT OF THE PRIVATE COMPANY.

"Huge Loss" Claim Shattered

A statement credited to Mr. Buckle and flaunted in flaring headlines by the Tory Press was to the effect that the Board had taken "huge losses" on sales after foreclosure.

This matter is dealt with effectively and, minutely, by Hon. Mr. Patterson, Provincial Treasurer, in the official Hansard Report of his address during the Debate on the Speech from the Throne (see Sessional Papers, 1928-29, page 109). There it is shown that a profit of \$6 176.90 was recorded on the sale of 145 parcels of land, and the positive statement is made that "the Board does not take credit for the profit on a sale until the sale is completed and the full purchase price paid."

Then Mr. Buckle poured the vials of his misdirected sarcasm upon the so-called "dollar down" sales of foreclosed farms by the Board. Apparently he is (or was, for it was made plain enough), ignorant of the fact that "dollar down" sales simply mean that the lands were sold on crop-payment agreements, which, surely, need no defence in this day and generation in Saskatchewan. (See also, Sessional Papers, 1928-29, page 109).

Insinuations Again

Mr. Buckle had several specific cases on which he erected the crazy and unsubstantial fabric of his argument, insinuating in true Tory style, that the individuals who purchased on this "dollar down" basis were "political friends of the Government" and that that was all they ever would be required to pay.

The FACTS are that substantial payments both on principal and interest have been made by the purchasers in every case cited by the Tory member. Full details in respect of each of these may be found on pages 109-110 of the Sessional Papers.

In justice to Mr. Buckle, it may be said that he **CONSIDERABLY MODIFIED HIS CRITICISM** OF THE FARM LOANS BOARD in the paper submitted by him to the famous Tory convention held in the City of Regina, last March, when censored, expurgated and dessicated versions of Tory cerebrations and excitations on the political situation in Saskatchewan were purveyed in the effort to energize and fortify the fond and faithful few.

Liquor Board

THE fact that the Saskatchewan Tory party in framing their platform at the Saskatoon convention last year upon which to appeal to the people of the Province for confidence and support made no mention whatever of the Saskatchewan Liquor Board, or the present system of Government control and sale in this Province, is in itself fairly substantial proof that the system meets with the approval of a large majority of the people, and that there is little criticism to offer of the Board's administration.

Such an omission from the Tory platform is all the more significant when one recalls that the "liquor question" has for generations been a live political topic, and is usually made a pivot of attack against the Government for the time being in office, regardless of its political complexion.

Nor is the significance of the omission lessened by an examination of the Tory platform in detail, for such an examination discloses that the delegates to the Saskatoon convention sought to cover every conceivable subject which might possibly catch the wavering attention of a solitary voter. The platform is made up of many planks, regardless of the fact whether or not they have reference to matters coming within the legislative and administrative competence of the Saskatchewan Legislature and Government, but the only reference in that platform which can be construed as even remotely touching the liquor question is a pious expression of belief that "education is much better than legislation along temperance lines" and a recommendation that "a greater emphasis be placed on the teaching of temperance in our public schools."

This is a belief and a recommendation which all men and women can heartily endorse whether it refers to the use of alcoholic liquors or expressions of opinion relative to matters of race and religion, or in political discussions. It is, indeed, distinctly encouraging to note that the Tory party is awakening to the need of teaching temperance—in all things, let it be hoped.

People Authorised Present System

The present liquor system of Saskatchewan was established as a result of a direct mandate given by the people in a referendum vote taken on July 16, 1924. At the session of the Legislature immediately following, The Liquor Act was passed making provision for the sale of liquor for beverage purposes through a system of Government Liquor Stores, and creating a Board to administer the Act and manage the system. The Act further provides control by the people over the establishment of stores, and sets up the necessary machinery whereby the people may express their will for or against the establishment of a Liquor Store in their district.

While the system thus established does not meet with the approval of the out-and-out prohibitionist, on the one hand, nor of the man who believes in absolute freedom of the individual to buy all the liquor he wants at any time and consume it anywhere without restriction, it does undoubtedly meet the present day views of a large majority of the people.

The only suggested change which has received any body of support is one that would permit the establishment of beer parlors and the sale of beer by the glass. Petitions both for and against adoption of this policy were presented to the Government during the recent (1928-29) session of the Legislature, but inasmuch as the people recorded their votes on this proposal in the 1924 referendum, and rejected it, and as no conclusive evidence was submitted that the people had since changed their minds, the Government declined to make the change.

Furthermore, the Government has made it clear that no such change will be made without first consulting the people by way of a referendum—a declaration of policy which Dr. Anderson has announced meets with his full approval.

There is, therefore, and most fortunately so, no political issue in Saskatchewan in relation to the liquor traffic.

In fact, in a statement made by him before the Public Accounts Committee, Dr. Anderson expressed his confidence in Dr. W. W. Amos, chairman of the Liquor Board, and in his administration of the system.

The only thing even approaching criticism of the Board was voiced by Dr. Stipe, Progressive member for Hanley, and that was in regard to the price paid by the Bottle Exchanges for empty beer bottles returned by consumers. Dr. Stipe insinuated that the difference in the allowance now paid for these empty bottles as compared with a former price went into Liberal campaign funds. No other member took any stock in Dr. Stipe's "battle of the empty bottles," and it was conclusively established that neither the Government nor the Liquor Board had anything to do with these Bottle Exchanges, nor with the prices set by the Exchanges for "empties."

Enforcement and Profits

In conclusion, two facts may be noted.

First, the enforcement of The Liquor Act is in the hands of the Local Police Forces in cities and the R.C.M.P. just as are all other laws.

The second fact to be noted is that 10 per cent. of the profits accruing to the Government from the sale of liquor are paid into the Sinking Fund to retire the Public Debt, and further amounts over and above the 10 per cent are used for the same purpose from time to time. In 1926-27 liquor profits amounted to \$2,111,537, and in 1927-28 to \$2,199,501, a total for the two years of \$4,311,038. Of this amount, only \$1,200,000 was taken into current revenue account, whereas in Alberta and Manitoba the whole of the liquor profits are utilized as current revenue.

The Civil Service

THE favorite stock-in-trade cry of the Opposition against the Liberal Government is the allegedly partizan character of the Civil Service. If Opposition statements were to be accepted at their face value, and in a strictly literal sense, the people of Saskatchewan would be led to believe that the Civil Service of the Province consists of a very mediocre lot of men and women holding down easy and lucrative positions, not because of any fitness or ability, but solely because they happen to be Grits.

Nor would this Tory picture of Saskatchewan's Civil Service be complete without a Liberal party organizer in the background as a conscienceless task-master whipping on these Government employees in the discharge of purely "partizan" work against their will and at the risk of losing their positions.

Thousands of Saskatchewan electors have had just such a picture held up before them by Opposition speakers. Every highway superintendent, engineer and inspector is declared to be a "party heeler" with few, if any, qualifications for his job, absolutely careless of his highway duties, and solely concerned with "making votes" for the Government. Highway contractors are placed in the same class, plus the "charge" that they are bled for party campaign funds, which must be forthcoming as the price of securing a contract.

Officials of the departments of agriculture, education, public works, public health, telephones, railways, labour and industries, are, to a greater or less extent, placed in the same category. Because the duties of many of these officials necessitate travelling throughout their respective districts, or the Province, the Opposition tell the people they are engaged in political activities, and that the Province is overrun with a horde of party workers in the Civil Service which the poor people are taxed to maintain.

With pious expressions, and holy hands held aloft, Dr. Anderson and his party henchmen exclaim that such things would be utterly impossible if the Conservatives were only placed in enjoyment of office.

The Real Civil Service

Contrasted with this Tory picture of Saskatchewan's Civil Service are the actual facts which, upon analysis, disclose that, as a body, its members will compare favorably with any other Civil Service, or with the staffs of Canada's largest corporations—railway, financial, industrial or commercial. The Civil Service of Saskatchewan includes doctors, lawyers, eminent educationists, scientists, civil and mechanical engineers, surveyors, research workers, nurses, agricultural and technical experts, chartered accountants, trained librarians, statisticians, publicists and social workers, landscape gardeners, architects, and scores of the best qualified bookkeepers, stenographers and typists.

These men and women are not merely "warming" chairs in offices; they are among the most conscientious, hard-working people in the Province. Nor are they the class of people who can be cajoled into doing the bidding of "party politicians," even supposing any such attempt was made. Members of Saskatchewan's Civil Service will be found among the most active, and holding posts

of honor, in all public and semi-public organizations in the Province devoted to the upbuilding of Saskatchewan and the advancement of its highest interests.

Dr. Anderson's strictures and those of his party lieutenants and press are nothing less than a libel on as fine a body of men and women as can be found anywhere in the Dominion.

Dr. Anderson's further insinuation that none but strong Liberal workers can secure employment in the Government service has no foundation in fact, as witness his own appointment and employment for many years as a school inspector—a position he held up to within a few hours of his election as leader of the Conservative party. In fact, he was still a Civil Servant when he was approached to become Tory leader.

Competitive Examinations

The Conservative platform declares in favor of the appointment of a Civil Service Commission, instead of a Commissioner as at present, and the holding of competitive examinations as a test for fitness to enter the public service. But competitive examinations will not indicate the right man for any given position. A person's past experience, executive ability, attitude towards subordinates and the public generally, as well as other qualifications, which no competitive examination might disclose, may easily be the determining factors in the selection made for a responsible public position. The best minds now administering the staff or personnel departments of large services and corporations place less reliance on competitive examinations than ever before and lay greater stress upon the personal factor.

An Unbiased Opinion by an Expert

A greater authority on Civil Service administration than Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, and one who is perhaps the greatest authority on Civil Service organization on this continent, Mr. Fred Telford, who works under the organization known as the Bureau of Public Administration, Washington, D.C., after making a visit to the various Civil Service Commissioners in the Western part of Canada and the United States, wrote a letter, quite unsolicited, to Premier Gardiner expressive of the favourable impression he received of Civil Service organization and administration in Saskatchewan, and in which he said he "was astonished to note the low cost at which this administrative control over personnel problems and work is being done." Mr. Telford concluded: "The Civil Service Commissioner's work is of such a character that you may well feel proud of it."

Superannuation of Civil Servants

The Gardiner Government has made provision for the superannuation of Civil Servants, thus providing for greater efficiency and permanence in the service. The Superannuation Act, which came into effect on May 1, 1927, provides for the making of contributions by all Civil Servants to the extent of four per cent. of their salary, but the Provincial Treasury is not called upon to make any contributions to the superannuation fund, which is self-supporting. The Government merely provides the cost of administration which, for the year ended April 30, 1928, amounted to just \$2,242.25. At the same date there was the sum of \$52,004.07 to the credit of the Civil Service Superannuation Fund on its first year's operations.

The "Independent Audit"

THE Conservative "demand" for an independent audit first became vocal during the Arm River by-election as a "catch-phrase" or "smoke-screen" to trap or delude the unwary voter. As such, it was typical of Tory Tactics in that campaign.

Having abandoned facts in favor of fallacies, criticism in favor of insinuation, the Tories invented the "demand" to conceal the weakness of their case. They had no desire to come to grips with real issues. Consequently, the phrase was invented for the dual purpose of evading the issue and of casting suspicion upon the unassailable financial record of the Government in which the Tories could find no loophole of direct attack.

What are the FACTS?

The phrase "independent audit" was first mentioned during the 1928 session of the Legislature by Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, and then **ONLY IN A CASUAL MANNER**, during the Budget Debate. Tantamount to an admission of the fatuous and futile nature of Tory criticism of the financial record of the Government, the phrase was virtually the only "financial" reference in that speech made in a debate supposedly confined to a discussion of provincial finance.

The phrase was magnified into a "demand" during the Arm River campaign and was seized upon and reiterated by Tory members during the last session of the Legislature. Since that time, another tag has been added to the phrase. It is now stated that the "Government refused to give them this Independent Audit."

Again, what are the FACTS?

Speaking in the Throne Speech Debate, Hon. Mr. Patterson, Provincial Treasurer, on behalf of the Government declared as follows:

"This Government has nothing to fear and nothing to hide, and if our friends opposite believe it consistent with their duty, they may go out and persuade the majority of the people that there is need for an independent audit. **AS SOON AS THERE IS ANY GENERAL DEMAND FOR IT, THIS GOVERNMENT, IN THAT RESPECT, AS IN ALL OTHER RESPECTS, WHEN THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE HAS BEEN MADE CLEAR, WILL BE PREPARED TO MEET THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE IN THAT REGARD.**" (See Sessional Papers, 1928-29, page 113.)

At the time the alleged "demand" was made, and at the time this statement was made by the Provincial Treasurer, only three men in the Province (speaking presumably for the Conservative party), had "demanded" this independent audit. These were three of the Conservative members of the Legislature. No other responsible group of the many in the Province has supported the "demand" or advanced one on its own account.

The Progressive party as such has made no "demand"; the United Farmers have seen no pressing necessity for an independent audit, nor have any of the great farmers' organizations. Yet the Conservatives profess to feel themselves aggrieved because the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan has not, at their behest, embarked upon an investigation which would cost the Province more than an investigation of such fundamental import and far-reaching consequence as that now being conducted by The Royal Grain Commission! Such is Conservative mentality—as exemplified by the Conservative leader and his immediate henchmen!

Again, what are the FACTS?

The facts are that, in the growth and development of British parliamentary institutions and prerogatives, certain safeguards have been created to control taxation and put effective check upon public expenditure. In the first place, no tax can be imposed without the consent of the Legislature. Second, every dollar expended must be passed and approved by the Department expending it, and also by the Provincial Auditor who is a servant not of the Government, but of the Legislature! In the third place, as complete details of expenditures are given in the Public Accounts for each fiscal year, they are open to scrutiny by any interested person. Fourth, the Provincial Treasurer is required, by law, to submit certain returns and reports pertaining to the finances of the Province at each Legislative session, and, fifthly, any item of public expenditure can be investigated to the fullest possible extent in the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts, which is created and appointed for that specific purpose. Hence, five very effective safeguards are placed upon the financial administration of the Province.

Because the Conservatives have failed to take advantage of the rights and privileges conferred by the Public Accounts Committee, they now seek to impose a sixth safeguard—this so-called Independent Audit!

In no parliament or legislature within the British Empire are independent audits (as the Tories apply the term), considered as matters of periodic or routine practice. When such audits are made (as they have been made in British Columbia, Manitoba, Alberta and Nova Scotia), they have been made at the instance of a new Government and, usually, for political purposes. Such audits have been inspired more by the desire to "get something on" the preceding Government than for the public weal. That the people "see through" these tactics, and estimate them at their true worth, is evidenced by the reaction following the Rhodes' audit in Nova Scotia of a year or two ago.

The Liberal Government of Saskatchewan, in 1916, retained the internationally-known firm of chartered accountants, Price, Waterhouse & Company, to make an investigation into or survey of, the accounting and auditing system of the Province. **THE RESULT WAS A VERY HIGH COMMENDATION OF THE SASKATCHEWAN SYSTEM!**

Summing up, there is no argument about the "independent audit," whatever. The Tories are simply arguing with themselves and against themselves. The Government, as stated by the Provincial Treasurer, is quite prepared to have such an audit made **WHENEVER IT HAS DEFINITE EVIDENCE OF THE FACT THAT A SUBSTANTIAL BODY OF PUBLIC OPINION DEMANDS IT.**

Saskatchewan University's Service to Agriculture

THE University of Saskatchewan, since its foundation by Act of the Legislature in 1907, has established an impressive record of service to agriculture in the Province.

Definite association of agriculture with other university activities was one of the salient features of the original University idea as conceived by the Liberal Government of the day, and in this Saskatchewan showed the way to other and similar institutions in Canada.

Seeing its value, Manitoba reversed its policy of separation and brought the College of Agriculture within the university. Adopting it, Alberta established the same close relations between agriculture and other branches of science.

The University of Saskatchewan was the first in Canada to stand for co-operation between professors of agriculture and professors of other sciences, and to this fact is traceable the tremendous impetus to agricultural research of recent years.

Following is an estimate of different services rendered to agriculture by the University, based upon reports received since 1911:

Approximately 350,000 persons have received direct instruction from lecturers and instructors in the service of the university;

1,000 boys have entered the degree and associate courses in agriculture given by the University;

100 of these have completed their B.S.A. courses, and of this hundred, 16 are teaching in Universities in Western Canada; 8 are engaged in research work; 8 are teaching in universities elsewhere; 9 are teaching in this Province; 5 are in graduate schools; 2 in Normal Schools of Saskatchewan, and 24 are in the service of the Dominion or Provincial Governments;

760 boys have entered the associate course for farmers' sons, and of these 95% are still engaged in farming;

11,000 men and women have attended short courses at the University;

15,000 boys and girls throughout the Province have received instruction in agriculture;

210,000 farmers and farm women have been enrolled in short courses throughout the Province;

115,000 persons attended Better Farming Trains on which members of the University staff were serving;

Research work in agriculture is done on the experimental farm and in the science laboratories. In the variety, number and extent of its experiments, the college farm is rivalled only by the experimental farm at Ottawa.

Dr. W. C. Murray, President of the University, has estimated that, if a separate institution were to attempt the research work in agriculture done by the University, an annual expenditure of \$150,000 would be required and an equipment costing approximately \$1,500,000 installed.

THE FORESIGHT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF LIBERAL GOVERNMENT MADE THESE SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY.

Agriculture in Normal Schools

During 1928, Premier Gardiner, as Minister of Education, announced the appointment, by the Government, of specially qualified and graduate instructors in agriculture, to the three Normal Schools of the Province. The teachers-in-training, numbering more than 1,600 a year, being thoroughly grounded in the principles of agriculture, thus will be enabled to carry the knowledge acquired into the schools of the Province, particularly into the schools in the country where it will do most good.

The Royal Grain Inquiry Commission

APPPOINTMENT of the Royal Grain Inquiry Commission was announced by Premier Gardiner on behalf of the Saskatchewan Government, Nov. 10, 1928, following widespread dissatisfaction with the grading of wheat then moving on to the market, and the consequent shrinkage in the returns to the farmers.

The Commission was empowered to enquire into the grading, mixing, handling and marketing of grain.

The action of the Government in appointing this Commission was the only possible action by which the widespread complaints relative to grading and mixing could be translated into concrete and specific suggestions upon which representations might be made to the Parliament of Canada and the Dominion Government for remedial amendment of The Canada Grain Act and the regulations thereunder.

Considering the facts of the case and in view of the general satisfaction with which producers of the province acclaimed the appointment, it came as a decided shock to the intelligence of the people of Saskatchewan to find the Opposition press belittling the efforts and the findings of the Commission even **BEFORE IT HAD STARTED TO FUNCTION**. Using the Commission as a vehicle, sinister though abortive attempts were made to impair the prestige of the Liberal Government.

Tory Press Ignores Facts

Inspired by the myopic partisanship for which it is noted, the Tory Press in particular proceeded to damn the Commission with faint praise and the Government with "frenzied fiction." despite the fact the farmers of the province and those most vitally interested in the questions under investigation, were flocking in their hundreds to attend and give evidence at the sittings of the Commission throughout the province.

The Tory Press continued its 'anvil chorus' against the Commission and the Government despite the fact that the Governments of Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and British Columbia in turn conferred full investigatory powers upon the Commission, thus enabling it to take evidence on oath within these provinces.

In face of these conclusive evidences of endorsement of the Saskatchewan Government's action, in spite of the accumulating proofs showing the transcendent importance attached to the matter by all ranks and conditions of the people of Western Canada, the Tory Press clashed in futile collision with the obvious even when the interim report of the Commission with its 25 recommendations, was issued for publication. Had the Tories consulted a dictionary instead of an "interpreting committee," their Press might have been spared the ignominy of construing "interim" as "final."

Opposition Criticism

From the very date of appointment of the Commission, the Opposition sought to make political capital of it at the expense of the Liberal Government.

Dr. J. T. M. Anderson, the Conservative Leader, peculiarly enough was not in accord with "his own Press" in the matter. Following his habitual practice, he declared that the Government, as usual, had adopted his suggestion, but that the action came too late!

The Tory leader forgets that, even had he made the suggestion (which, of course, is too ridiculous for comment) it would essentially have had to be submitted to his famous "interpreting committee" to determine what it meant. Further, and taking his own claims at their face value, as everything the Liberal Government of Saskatchewan has done since he (Dr. Anderson) entered the Legislature in 1925, has been done at his suggestion, there is something paradoxical not to say astounding in his ranging himself in opposition to the Liberal Government at all!

Dr. Anderson's camouflaged henchmen among the Progressive group in the Legislature, echoed and supplemented his argument with declarations to effect that the Commission should have been a Federal Commission as the Saskatchewan Legislature had no authority to legislate with respect to the marketing of grain outside the province.

The Progressive critics who voiced this sentiment suffered from the same astigmatism as the Tory chieftain.

Condition Developed Quickly

The Government could not have acted any earlier than it did because the conditions complained of did not manifest themselves to a great degree until the grain began to move on to the market. Subsequently, the condition developed very quickly. Earlier action could not have altered the situation, or amended it materially, so far as the marketing of last year's crop was concerned, because the findings of the Commission could not have been implemented by the necessary legislation until the Federal House met and considered the matter. So much for the argument that the Government's action came too late.

With regard to the criticism that the Commission should have been a Federal Commission, the critics apparently ignored the fact that, as the Turgeon Commission had covered very much the same ground at the instance of the Federal Government just three years previously, there might have been some hesitancy and delay on the part of that Government to institute further action.

Recommendations Carry Weight

With regard to the third point relative to the implementing of the Commission's recommendations, the critics forgot that the Premier of Canada, the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Railways and Canals all represent

Saskatchewan constituencies, and must essentially be sympathetic. Further, the recommendations of the Commission actually will represent the crystallized opinion of producers of the three prairie provinces in relation to the matters under probe, in that the Commission has pursued its investigation in all three provinces, with the full accord of the governments concerned. Obviously, no Government at Ottawa could ignore representations backed by the united opinion of so integral a portion of the Dominion.

The Saskatchewan Government in acting as and when it did, felt that the matter was altogether of too pressing a nature to court delay, or chance it, by endeavouring to persuade the Dominion Government to authorize another inquiry practically on the heels of the Turgeon Commission. Then, too, as Saskatchewan produces annually half the wheat crop of the Dominion, it was deemed that, primarily, the duty devolved upon the Saskatchewan Government to protect the interests of the producers of the province. The Saskatchewan Government, therefore, made no attempt to throw the responsibility upon the Federal Government—but **TOOK THE INITIATIVE ITSELF!**

Why Commission Justified

As to the criticism that the Commission would simply go over ground already covered by the Turgeon Commission, it is unsupportable in fact. The whole system of marketing grain has undergone change since that Commission functioned, through the advent of the Wheat Pools. Furthermore, while the Turgeon Commission recommendations on mixing had been incorporated in legislation by the Federal Parliament, the safeguards proposed by that commission had not been given effect.

At the time the Turgeon Commission inquired into the matter, the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool had not been established, consequently it was not able to speak for the mass of the producers of the Province (as it did before the Saskatchewan Commission) on this important matter. True, the Alberta Pool, which was in operation at the time, favored mixing before the Turgeon Commission, taking the ground that if the line elevator companies could make money out of mixing then the farmers' company could do so too. But—public opinion on the matter has changed since that time, even in Alberta. More information is available upon which to base an opinion and farmers' organizations are much more unanimous now than they were at the time of the Turgeon Commission probe. In proof of this, reference need only be made to the testimony of Pool officials at the Regina sitting of the present Commission.

Critics Missed the Mark

Lastly, the Tory Press outdid itself in its comment on the 25 recommendations contained in the Interim Report. As has been said, they construed "interim" to mean "final," and vehemently protested nothing had been recommended in regard to mixing and grading which were the main subjects of study. This criticism brought a well-merited rebuke from Chief Justice Brown, chairman of the Commission. Had the Tory editorial writers perused the report as issued

by the Commission, on Page 42 they would have found, immediately following a resumé of the recommendations, the following and concluding statement:

“There are many matters—and some of them very important—on which we are not prepared at the present time to make a report, such as:

- (1) Re-defining some of the grades;
- (2) Making new grades so as, as far as possible, to reduce spreads in price that now prevail between grades;
- (3) Making protein content a factor in grading;
- (4) Allowing grain that is tough or damp to get into the straight grades when dried; or providing that such grain, when dried, shall be specially earmarked;
- (5) Mixing of the grades at private terminals;
- (6) Final inspection on unload sample,

and many other matters which cannot very well be detailed here.

“We hope, after further investigation and mature consideration, to be able to deal with all such matters in our final report.”

Opposition Allegations and Answers There to

IT is charged that Roman Catholics dominate and control the Gardiner Government, dictate its policies, and have a preponderating influence in the Civil Service of the Province.

The same charge was made against the Scott, Martin and Dunning Governments, but as the Tory Opposition persists in such mis-statements, adding to them from time to time, it is well to present the facts and let them speak for themselves and make answer to this absurdity.

According to the last Dominion census (1921), in which statistics of the religions of the people were obtained, Roman Catholics constitute 20 per cent. and Protestants 80 per cent. of the population of Saskatchewan, the actual figures being:

Roman Catholics.....	147,342
Protestants.....	610,168

Total..... 757,510

It will be seen, therefore, that Roman Catholics constitute one-fifth of the population.

There are 63 members in the Legislative Assembly, of whom six are Roman Catholics, or one-tenth as compared with one-fifth in the total population.

There are seven cabinet ministers in the Gardiner Government, of whom one is a Roman Catholic. That is, one-seventh as compared with one-fifth in the total population.

There are 16 Deputy Ministers or heads of departments ranking as Deputy Ministers, of whom two are Roman Catholics.

There are 1,615 Civil Service employees, of whom 208 are Roman Catholics.

(NOTE.—With 20 per cent. of the population Roman Catholic, only 12.88 per cent. of the Civil Service is Roman Catholic, Protestants holding 87 per cent. of public positions and Roman Catholic 13 per cent.)

Department of Education Staff

In the Department of Education, through which department, in particular, the Roman Catholic Church is alleged to be working, the staff is classified as follows:

	Protestant	Roman Catholic
School Inspectors.....	42	5
Principals of Normal Schools...	3	0
Other Normal School Staff.....	30	3
Other employees.....	62	11
	—	—
Total.....	137	19

Not one of the executive positions in the Department of Education is held by a Roman Catholic.

There were (Dec. 31, 1928), 4,826 elementary school districts in Saskatchewan, of which number 24 are Roman Catholic separate schools and 8 Protestant separate schools. (*One Protestant separate school has since been disorganised.*)

Of these 4,826 elementary schools, Roman Catholic Sisters are teaching in only 43. Of these 43 schools, 13 are separate schools, and 30 are public schools, the latter including six of the old Territorial Roman Catholic public schools.

There are approximately 8,500 teachers engaged in public and separate schools, of whom 153 are Roman Catholic Sisters—66 in 13 Roman Catholic separate schools, and 87 in 30 public schools.

Compare these figures with:

Alberta, 5,380 teachers, 110 Sisters;

Manitoba, 3,700 teachers, 80 Sisters;

Ontario, 16,016 teachers, 1,077 Sisters and 98 Brothers;

Nova Scotia, 3,358 teachers, 210 Sisters;

P.E.I., 615 teachers, 26 Sisters.

Records are not available for British Columbia and New Brunswick.

Religious Beliefs of Civil Servants

The employees of all Departments of the Saskatchewan Government are classified according to their religious beliefs, as follows:

Department or Office	Number of		
	Protestants	Roman Catholics	Total
Legislative Assembly and Law Clerk	4	1	5
Executive Council	8	1	9
Attorney General (Includes Sheriffs)	328	42	370
Provincial Secretary	45	9	54
Treasury	49	7	56
Audit	20	1	21
Public Works	447	69	516
Highways	80	7	87
Education	137	19	156
Agriculture	84	9	93
Municipal	30	6	36
Local Government Board	10	0	10
Public Health	52	14	66
Railways, Labour and Industries	58	10	68
Bureau of Child Protection	16	5	21
Insurance	9	2	11
King's Printer's Office	10	3	13
Bureau of Publications and Legislative Library	18	2	20
Civil Service Commission	2	1	3
Totals	1,407	208	1,615

Recapitulation

Protestants 1,407

Roman Catholics 208

Percentage of Roman Catholics in Civil Service 12.88%

Department of Public Health Staff

Speaking at Biggar, Sask., on September 14, 1927, Mr. C. H. Puckering, K.K.K. Organiser, said:

"The Roman Catholics in this Province have the Government by the nose. Recently at Regina, the Department of Public Health engaged fifteen new girls. What do you think? All of them were Roman Catholics. It is time something was done."

ANSWER: The total staff of the Department of Public Health is 66, of which number 52 are Protestant and 14 Roman Catholic. At the close of the previous fiscal year, April 30, 1927, the staff numbered 65, the increase for the year being, therefore, just one. Of the personnel as at April 30, 1927, 62 were members of the permanent staff and three members of the temporary staff. Among the permanent staff there were during the year six resignations, two retired on account of superannuation, one died, and one was dismissed, a total of ten. Six of these vacancies were filled, one by appointment from the temporary staff, one by transfer from another department, four by appointment, making a permanent staff of 58. Starting with a temporary staff of three, there were 15 appointed at intervals throughout the year. Three others were transferred to the department from other departments, thus making 21 who were at one time or another members of the temporary staff. Of this total, nine resigned, one was appointed to the permanent staff, and three transferred to other departments, leaving a temporary staff of eight.

Of the 15 appointed to the temporary staff (the same number as mentioned by Mr. Puckering), 11 were men, not all girls as alleged, and of the 15, eleven were Protestants and four Roman Catholics, the latter being two men and two women.

Religion in the Police

Another allegation widely circulated through the Province is to the effect that one reason for the abolition of the Provincial Police was in order to get rid of the Protestants in it, while the Roman Catholics were taken into the R.C.M.P.

ANSWER: Of the members of the S.P.P. taken on the strength of the R.C.M.P. upon dissolution of the S.P.P. on June 1st, 52 were Protestants and six Roman Catholics.

Facts Regarding the Orphanages

J. J. Maloney, speaking at Yorkton, as reported in the "Yorkton Enterprise," March 27, 1928:

"He cited the case of orphanages in Saskatchewan, stating that out of \$4,400 given by the Government, only some \$700 went to Protestant institutions."

ANSWER: There are four orphanages in Saskatchewan, three of which are Roman Catholic and only one Protestant. Mr. Maloney's use of the plural

in reference to Protestant "institutions" was deliberately misleading. The four orphanages and the Government grants paid to each during the fiscal year ended April 30, 1928 (See Public Accounts, page 225) are:

St. Patrick's Orphanage, Prince Albert.....	\$2,000.00
St. Ann's Orphanage, Unity.....	800.00
Sacred Heart Orphanage, Yorkton.....	800.00
Orange Benevolent Society Orphanage, Indian Head.....	800.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,400.00

St. Patrick's is the oldest orphanage in the West and much the largest in this Province. On a per capita basis (that is, the number of children cared for), Roman Catholics and Protestants were treated alike in the matter of grants.

Inmates of Mental Hospitals

J. J. Maloney, speaking at Biggar, Sask., on June 15, as reported in "The Saskatoon Star," June 16, 1928, made use of the following expression:

"You speak of your records. All I see is six or seven fine buildings, two of which are asylums to house the immigrant cast-offs of central Europe."

ANSWER: The Annual Report of the Mental Hospitals of the Province of Saskatchewan for the year ending April 30, 1927, gives the following information:

Battleford Hospital—Admissions.

Nationality	
Canada, Great Britain, United States.....	184
All other countries.....	73
	<hr/>
Total admissions for the year ending April 30, 1927.....	257

Weyburn Hospital—Admissions.

Nationality	
Canada, Great Britain, United States.....	217
All other countries.....	58
	<hr/>
Total admissions for the year ending April 30, 1927.....	275

Total Admissions to Both Hospitals for the Year Ending April 30, 1927

Nationality	
Canada, Great Britain, United States.....	401
All other countries.....	131
	<hr/>
Total admissions to both hospitals.....	532

(For further details see Annual Report)

T. A. Anderson's Blue Ruin Talk

Speaking at a Conservative nominating convention at Swift Current, April 19, 1929, T. A. Anderson, former Tory M.L.A., is reported in the "Swift Current Sun," as follows:

"The speaker then referred to the appalling increase of public and provincial liabilities since 1905; the taxation on a quarter section was \$6, and on an average now it is \$115."

ANSWER: According to the latest figures of the Saskatchewan Assessment Commission the average tax per quarter section is \$40.50, made up as follows:

Municipal purposes.....	\$16.50
School purposes.....	20.20
Provincial Govt. Public Revenue Tax.....	3.80

\$40.50

The above figure does not include Wild Lands Tax, which is levied on the land of non-residents and unimproved land held for speculative or other purposes; Rural telephone tax which is paid by those who benefit by the telephone service provided; Hail insurance tax which likewise benefits and protects those who pay it, and the imposition of which is voluntary with the residents of the municipality.

Passes for Clergymen over C.N.R.

J. J. Maloney, at Yorkton, as reported in the "Yorkton Enterprise," March 27, 1928:

"He drew attention to the fact that whereas Protestant priests had to pay rail fare in travelling, the Catholics did not, in the main, the majority of them having passes over the Canadian National Railways."

ANSWER: This statement was referred to Sir Henry Thornton, president of the C.N.R., who replied: "With respect to the hardy perennial that we are giving passes to the Roman Catholic clergy. This question has been investigated time and again. I have personally gone over it with a fine tooth comb and it has been found that the charges are absolutely without foundation. There is nothing in it."

The statement was likewise referred to Dr. W. J. Black, director of the Department of Colonization, Agriculture and Natural Resources of the Canadian National Railways, and he made a report that forty clergymen enjoy free transportation over their lines, all of whom are engaged in colonization work. Of these forty clergymen, 27 are of Protestant denominations while 13 are Roman Catholic.

Priests in Immigration Department

J. J. Maloney, at Yorkton, as reported in the "Yorkton Enterprise," March 27, 1928:

"He mentioned that there were some 29 priests in the Immigration Department at Ottawa."

ANSWER: Hon. Robert Forke, Minister of Immigration and Colonisation, to whom this statement was referred, in reply on April 19, 1928, said:

"We have no Roman Catholic priests in our service at the present time. We have not had any of the French priests in our service since January last. We never had 29 priests in the pay of the Department. At the time the special repatriation organisation was discontinued at Montreal, we had 12 on salary and we were paying some expenses for a few others."

Mr. Forke further stated that there has been an annual expenditure on French-Canadian repatriation efforts for the past 38 years, and that such expenditures under the Borden Government in 1914-15 and 1915-16 were over \$30,000.

The Prince of Wales' Bible

Chas. H. Puckering, K.K.K. organiser, at Kerrobert, as reported in the "Kerrobert Citizen," April 25, 1928:

"Referring to the Prince of Wales' visit to Canada last year, he said that he was the only prince who had ever declined to bow his knees to the Pope of Rome, and, like the previous speakers here, said that the Prince's gift of a Protestant Bible to the Peace Tower had been resented by Rome and its replacement by a Catholic version demanded."

ANSWER: No such demand was ever made, nor is there any knowledge at Ottawa that any resentment has been felt or expressed. The truth of the matter is that the Peace Tower was still in the hands of workmen, and the Prince's gift was removed for safe-keeping until the sculpturing and other work connected with the Tower was completed.

Ceremonies at Opening of Parliament

Chas. H. Puckering, K.K.K. organiser, at Kerrobert, as reported in the "Kerrobert Citizen," April 25, 1928:

"The Canadian Parliament, he said, for the first time in history recognised the Church of Rome in civil matters, by the fact that the first Parliament opened since Canada had achieved nationhood had permitted representation to Rome during the opening ceremony. He then described the opening of Parliament. First in the procession had been the Speaker, second, the Governor General and third, Mgr. L. Andrea Consuelo, papal legate, and this man had asked the blessing in a foreign tongue. The Klan had protested against these arrangements before the opening of the House, but to no avail, and we now found ourselves in the position of having acknowledged the superiority of Rome."

ANSWER: There is no procession of Church dignitaries at the opening of Parliament, which is a spectacular and largely social function, the arrangement of which is in the hands of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, an official of the Senate, and the church representatives and others are seated as and when they arrive in seats reserved for them in accordance with the Table of Precedence. This Table of Precedence is established and subject to regulations of the British Government and is approved by the King. First in order of precedence is the Governor General, followed by the Lieutenants-Governor of the nine Provinces, with Ontario leading. The Prime Minister of Canada then comes in eleventh place. Twelfth place is allotted to the Minister of the United States, and thirteenth place to "Archbishops and Bishops according to seniority." Because of his rank, the papal ambassador heads this group.

No one asks a blessing at the opening; in fact there are no prayers until the public function is over and the formal assembling of the Senate and the Commons takes place, in connection with which, and on every day during the session upon the re-assembling of these Chambers, the Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the Commons read a prescribed prayer.

Appendix "A"

Comparative Statement of Distribution of Revenues and Expenditures,
fiscal year ended April 30, 1928.

REVENUES

	Percentage		
1. DOMINION GOVERNMENT...	27.1594		\$3,172,015.72
(a) Subsidy.....	17.4033	\$2,032,575.00	
(b) School Lands.....	9.7561	1,139,440.72	
2. TAXATION.....	30.3116		3,540,157.19
(a) Public Revenues (Less Commission.....	16.0527	\$1,874,832.73	
(b) Wild Lands (Less Com- mission).....	3.1774	371,075.92	
(c) Supplementary Revenue (Less Commission)....	.1751	20,454.79	
(d) Inheritance.....	3.1098	363,201.52	
(e) Corporation.....	4.3490	507,936.24	
(f) Timber Berth.....	.0752	8,783.20	
(g) Railways.....	2.9882	349,000.00	
(h) Fur Royalties.....	.3842	44,872.79	
3. LICENSES.....	21.8320		2,549,804.91
(a) Detective.....	.0034	400.00	
(b) Auctioneer.....	.0817	9,537.50	
(c) Peddlers.....	.2568	29,990.00	
(d) Marriage.....	.1779	20,774.00	
(e) Motors.....	19.4005	2,265,836.26	
(f) Moving Pictures.....	.3099	36,193.71	
(g) Circus.....	.0428	4,993.14	
(h) Company.....	.1070	12,500.00	
(i) Insurance.....	.7279	85,014.85	
(j) Fur Dealer.....	.1567	18,297.30	
(k) Game.....	.2332	27,239.96	
(l) Slaughter House.....	.0385	4,502.00	
(m) Plumber.....	.0040	470.00	
(n) Embalmer.....	.0028	326.00	
(o) Steam Boiler.....	.1257	14,685.00	
(p) Cow Testing and Creameries.....	.0070	810.00	
(q) Trappers.....	.1519	17,738.19	
(r) Dog Trainer.....	.0043	497.00	

REVENUES—Continued.

	Percentage	
4. FEES.....	8.3607	\$ 976,463.07
(a) Notary Public.....	.0289	\$ 3,370.00
(b) Commissioner of Oaths...	.0048	562.00
(c) Police.....	.2080	24,285.10
(d) Succession Duty Fees....	.0479	5,598.00
(e) Land Titles.....	5.1233	598,358.17
(f) Court and Sheriff.....	.8716	101,795.53
(g) Company.....	.2521	29,442.50
(h) Examinations (Education)	.7497	87,562.51
(i) Teachers Certificates.....	.0174	2,034.51
(j) Normal School.....	.2464	28,779.85
(k) Brands.....	.0311	3,633.05
(l) Stallion Examination....	.0149	1,737.00
(m) Stallion Registration....	.0224	2,617.80
(n) Vital Statistics.....	.0561	6,556.09
(o) Administration of Estates of the Mentally Incom- petent.....	.1577	18,416.40
(p) Steam Boilers Act.....	.1327	15,501.67
(q) Liquor Permits .....	.1198	13,995.00
(r) Miscellaneous.....	.2759	32,217.89
5. REPAYMENTS OF ADVANCES AND LOANS (Other than on Capital Accounts).....	2.4044	280,815.88
6. INSTITUTIONAL REVENUE..	1.6799	196,198.62
7. FINES, FORFEITURES AND ESTREATED BAIL..	1.0325	120,587.06
8. MISCELLANEOUS..... being Interest, Sale of Publications and Materials, Liquor Profits, etc.	7.2195	843,183.70
	100.00	\$11,879,226.15

EXPENDITURES

	Percentage	
1. ADMINISTRATIVE.....	3.8875	\$ 452,274.52
2. LEGISLATIVE.....	1.6532	192,331.61
3. PROTECTIVE	12.6527	1,471,999.82
(a) Police.....	3.9243	\$ 456,548.53
(b) Courts.....	2.0638	240,104.90
(c) Gaols.....	1.6125	187,596.00
(d) Land Titles.....	2.8635	333,133.61
(e) Miscellaneous.....	2.1886	254,616.78
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4. DEVELOPMENTAL.....	76.6822	8,921,103.63
(a) Education.....	35.1613	\$ 4,090,617.25
(b) Public Health.....	15.0047	1,745,620.53
(c) Child Protection.....	4.5760	532,369.14
(d) Promotion of Agriculture and Commerce:		
1. Agriculture.....	4.3742	508,889.66
2. Highways.....	16.4106	1,909,189.77
3. Labour and Industries.	1.1554	134,417.28
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5. MISCELLANEOUS.....	5.1244	596,175.30
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	100.00	\$11,633,884.88

Appendix "B"

SOME SCHOOL STATISTICS

Elementary School Districts

	1905	1925	1927
Number of Districts.....	896	4,679	4,826
R.C. Separate School Districts.....	7	21	24
Protestant Separate School Districts...	2	6	8
Enrolment.....	25,191	199,544	211,599
Per cent. of Attendance.....	53.56	69.60	71.69
Enrolment (Classified):			
Rural schools.....	15,743	118,741	126,483
Village schools.....	{ 9,448 }	36,259	38,078
Town schools.....		21,533	22,152
City schools.....	None	23,011	24,886
Average length of school year (days)..	173.44	193.50	197.75
Teachers employed.....	821	7,520	8,114
Government grants paid.....	\$ 263,640	\$ 2,355,444	\$ 2,362,973
Expenditures of S.D.....	\$1,002,875	\$14,290,836	\$15,917,668

Secondary Schools

Collegiate Institutes.....	None	12	12
High Schools.....	None	12	11
Pupils enrolled.....	None	7,016	6,961
Teachers employed.....	None	193	225
Elementary Schools doing Continuation or High School work.....	None	259	381
Enrolment in above schools.....	None	7,647	9,210
Grants to above schools.....	Nil	\$388,758	\$420,060
High School enrolment in all schools..	809	17,526	20,118
Number Schools teaching some High School work.....	....	1,324	1,896

Teachers Trained in Saskatchewan

First Class.....	37	285	334
Second Class.....	157	609	898
Third Class.....	12	808	282

Free Readers

Following is a statement of Free Readers distributed since 1908, together with expenditures during the fiscal years for the same, indicating the savings to parents. In fact, the saving is very much greater than the figures indicate by

reason of the fact that whereas parents would have been obliged to purchase single copies at retail prices, the Government bought in large quantities direct from the publishers:

Alexandra Readers distributed.		Expenditure	
1908.....	51,673	1908-09.....	\$12,275.16
1909.....	17,477	1909-10.....	2,535.26
1910.....	16,107	1910-11.....	7,370.73
1911.....	27,912	1911-12.....	4,199.07
1912.....	36,083	1912-13.....	18,982.89
1913.....	.....	1913-14.....	4,188.63
1914.....	58,653	1914-15.....	16,455.15
1915.....	67,981	1915-16.....	16,122.07
1916.....	73,688	1916-17.....	17,378.04
1917.....	92,953	1917-18.....	20,407.86
1918.....	93,802	1918-19.....	21,038.70
1919.....	115,986	1919-20.....	23,262.53
1920.....	131,215	1920-21.....	37,754.56
1921.....	135,934	1921-22.....	60,564.76
1922.....	84,423	1922-23.....	52,593.73
1923.....	7,655	1923-24.....	67,301.32
Canadian Readers distributed.			
1922.....	71,916	(included above)	
1923.....	169,817	(included above)	
1924.....	126,606	1924-25.....	58,062.14
1925.....	118,910	1925-26.....	58,898.94
1926.....	120,315	1926-27.....	59,292.37
1927.....	121,662	1927-28.....	36,987.53
1928.....	128,281	1928-29.....	33,700.21
(to April 18, 1929)			
Total number of Readers distributed.....			1,869,049
Total expenditure by Government.....			\$629,371.65
Average cost per book slightly less than 30 cents.			

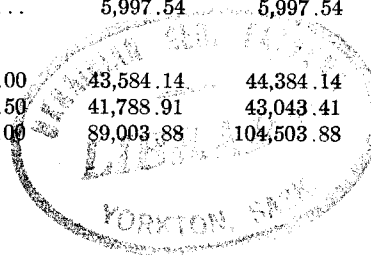
Appendix "C"

PUBLIC BUILDINGS (as at March 31, 1929.)

	Land	Buildings Furnishings, Etc.	Total
Administration—			
Legislative and Dept. Bldgs..	\$102,648.80	\$3,265,654.89	\$3,368,303.69
Government House.....	5,300.00	103,386.85	108,686.85
Farmers Building.....	15,000.00	135,000.00	150,000.00
Protective—			
Provincial office Bldg.....	15,000.00	197,949.15	212,949.15
Detachment Quarters—			
Arcola.....	500.00	2,000.00	2,500.00
Beechy.....	100.00	2,370.36	2,470.36
Biggar.....	.....	239.42	239.42
Big River.....	300.00	1,940.94	2,240.94
Canora.....	900.00	13,235.20	14,135.20
Craik.....	425.00	2,797.15	3,222.15
Cutknife.....	250.00	4,693.75	4,943.75
Conquest.....	.....	263.60	263.60
Diamond Crossing.....	.....	7,834.15	7,834.15
Duck Lake.....	.....	27.00	27.00
Elrose.....	450.00	2,200.00	2,650.00
Estevan.....	900.00	3,800.00	4,700.00
Elbow.....	600.00	2,900.00	3,500.00
Esterhazy.....	350.00	3,224.10	3,574.10
Fon du Lac.....	.....	183.84	183.84
Holdfast.....	300.00	3,200.00	3,500.00
Hafford.....	150.00	3,600.00	3,750.00
Humboldt.....	350.00	3,455.00	3,805.00
Kindersley.....	200.00	3,971.58	4,171.58
Lanigan.....	300.00	1,327.32	1,627.32
Lac La Ronge.....	.....	214.85	214.85
Maple Creek.....	300.00	4,369.69	4,669.69
Melfort.....	1,225.00	4,203.15	5,428.15
Meadow Lake.....	200.00	1,670.00	1,870.00
Mossbank.....	300.00	2,910.60	3,210.60
Milestone.....	300.00	2,934.10	3,234.10
North Battleford.....	1,000.00	7,343.99	8,343.99
Ogema.....	200.00	1,000.00	1,200.00
Prince Albert.....	5,000.00	16,115.87	21,115.87
Preeceville.....	.....	217.00	217.00
Rosthern.....	300.00	2,845.90	3,145.90

Public Buildings as at March 31st, 1929—Continued.

	Land	Buildings, Furnishings, etc.	Total
Detachment Quarters—Continued.			
Radville.....	\$ 450.00	\$ 3,435.00	\$ 3,885.00
Radisson.....	.....	239.42	239.42
Shaunavon.....	475.00	2,025.00	2,500.00
Shellbrook.....	100.00	1,165.84	1,265.84
Swift Current.....	5,000.00	23,446.42	28,446.42
Vonda.....	300.00	1,200.00	1,500.00
Val Marie.....	100.00	4,927.92	5,027.92
Weyburn.....	3,000.00	23,882.72	26,882.72
Wakaw.....	400.00	4,250.00	4,650.00
Willow Bunch.....	250.00	2,750.00	3,000.00
Wadena.....	500.00	3,314.00	3,814.00
Young.....	400.00	3,100.00	3,500.00
Court Houses—			
Arcola.....	750.00	39,979.56	40,729.56
Assiniboia.....	.....	1,247.55	1,247.55
Battleford.....	1,254.50	56,559.17	57,813.67
Estevan.....	7,000.00	1,212.24	8,212.24
Gravelbourg.....	2,132.83	53,525.89	55,658.72
Kerrobert.....	Donated	191,633.10	191,633.10
Kindersley.....	Donated	13,835.05	13,835.05
Leader.....	.....	938.16	938.16
Moose Jaw.....	7,000.00	73,045.68	80,045.68
Melville.....	.....	1,925.51	1,925.51
Moosomin.....	800.00	29,833.19	30,633.19
Melfort.....	.....	59,943.65	59,943.65
Maple Creek.....	.....	948.11	948.11
Prince Albert.....	.....	150,715.33	150,715.33
Regina.....	2,500.00	118,401.92	120,901.92
Saskatoon.....	11,000.00	62,971.30	73,971.30
Wynyard.....	1,000.00	52,243.10	53,243.10
Weyburn.....	17,900.00	84,859.50	102,759.50
Wilkie.....	2,000.00	7,024.50	9,024.50
Yorkton.....	16,250.00	157,224.59	173,474.59
Shaunavon.....	Donated	53,971.88	53,971.88
Court Houses and Land Titles Offices—			
Swift Current.....	\$13,000.00	\$165,117.05	\$178,117.05
Humboldt.....	8,000.00	133,365.60	141,365.60
Prince Albert.....	.....	5,997.54	5,997.54
Land Titles Offices—			
Arcola.....	800.00	43,584.14	44,384.14
Battleford.....	1,254.50	41,788.91	43,043.41
Moose Jaw.....	15,500.00	89,003.88	104,503.88



Public Buildings as at March 31st, 1929—Continued.

	Land	Buildings, Furnishings, etc.	Total
Land Titles Offices—Continued.			
Moosomin.....	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 53,096.76	\$ 54,069.76
Prince Albert.....		1,576.83	1,576.83
Regina.....	10,000.00	156,149.69	166,149.69
Saskatoon.....	6,250.00	69,469.23	75,719.23
Yorkton.....	2,500.00	53,511.25	56,011.25
Moosomin Jail.....	6,012.00	167,741.01	173,753.01
Regina Jail.....	119,532.11	421,390.21	540,922.32
Prince Albert Jail.....	4,100.00	35,571.00	39,671.00
Prince Albert Jail (New)....	72,840.45	681,167.72	754,008.17
Industrial School for Boys....		31,525.00	31,525.00
Developmental—			
University of Saskatchewan...		*3,688,209.56	3,688,209.56
Normal School, Regina.....	1,192.05	336,454.91	37,646.96
Normal School, Saskatoon...	20,000.00	647,199.37	667,199.37
Normal School, Moose Jaw...	Donated	206,961.34	206,961.34
Mental Hospital, Weyburn...	31,119.20	2,950,517.68	2,981,636.88
Mental Hospital, Battleford...	57,730.55	2,159,758.50	2,217,489.05
Wolseley.....	1,750.00	216,288.01	218,038.01
Tubercular Hospital, Fort Qu'Appelle.....		*554,875.63	554,875.63
Tubercular Hospital, Saskatoon.....	3,512.50	759,945.35	763,457.85
Tubercular Hospital, Prince Albert.....		236,631.52	236,631.52
Miscellaneous—			
War Memorial Museum.....		28,598.39	28,598.39
Warehouse.....	6,750.00	14,739.57	21,489.57
Liquor Warehouse.....	10,000.00	107,000.00	117,000.00
Employment Office, Estevan..		14.00	14.00
Unoccupied—			
Battleford Land Titles Office (Old).....	120.00	2,112.00	2,232.00
Moose Jaw Court House (Old)	3,600.00	3,126.00	6,726.00
Carnduff Court House.....	1,450.00	6,166.50	7,616.50
Regina Jail (Old).....	18,807.95	23,398.52	42,206.47
Yorkton Court House (Old)..	1,000.00	7,571.50	8,571.50
Regina, W½-8-17-19-W2nd...	36,000.00	2,026.55	38,026.55
Block 428, Regina.....	120,000.00		120,000.00
Government Offices (Old)....	3,000.00	7,910.00	10,910.00
Site for Court House, Melville	6,000.00		6,000.00
Site for Court House, Melfort.	2,805.11		2,805.11

*Also includes land.	\$819,037.55	\$19,204,388.47	\$20,023,426.02
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